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East Asia

FBIS-EAS-90-209
Monday
29 October 1990

Daily Report
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ASEAN To Call for Improvement in Five Sectors

BK2810055590 Bangkok THE NATION in English 28 Oct 90 pp 1,2

[By Oranut Anusaksathian]

[Text] Denpasar, Bali—The six ASEAN nations have indicated they will adopt a unified and forceful stand, including the possibility of a walkout, against the Uruguay Round multilateral trade talks if five sectors crucial to ASEAN are not substantially improved.

In a statement being prepared for the two-day meeting of ASEAN economic ministers beginning here tomorrow, the regional grouping echoed a common stance to the spluttering GATT negotiations and hinted at the possibility of withdrawing from the Round.

The statement which the economic ministers from the six—Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand—will deliver during their two-day meeting says that ASEAN will do "whatever necessary" to protect its interest in this crucial Round which has little time left in which to set liberalized conditions for world trade in goods and services.

According to Karun Kittisathaphon, deputy director general of the Business Economics Department of the Thai Chamber of Commerce, and chairman of the ASEAN working group on the Round, the wording shows ASEAN's dissatisfaction with the stalemate in most of the 15 sectors under discussion, particularly those which have immense economic importance to developing countries such as agriculture, textiles and clothing.

Broad differences over these issues have still to be resolved. "It's time the ASEAN nations spoke out on the bottom line that they expect. If it cannot be achieved, then the Round has failed," Karun said.

Karun, who is also a key negotiator for Thailand in the talks, stressed that although ASEAN did not specify what action it might take in the case that no progress was made in the coming months, he saw a possibility of ASEAN joining like-minded developing countries and small developed countries in walking away from the negotiations, which are in the vital closing stages. If the political will among the ASEAN economic ministers is there, they may decide to send a delegation to the EC to convey this message and pressure the 12-nation trading bloc to submit its agricultural proposals, Karun added.

ASEAN, according to Karun, feels that the negotiations have been manipulated by developed countries and are evolving into a crisis, as the European Community has delayed its agricultural trade reform submission.

The five areas in which ASEAN wishes to see significant breakthroughs before the ministers from over 100 participating countries in the Uruguay Round, held under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), meet in Brussels on Dec 3-7 to conclude their negotiations, are agriculture, textiles and clothing, dispute settlement, trade rules and market access.

On agriculture, the statement urges the participating countries to submit their proposals immediately so that negotiations can resume. The European Community whose commission is locked in battle with member states over its plan to cut farm support by 30 percent between 1986-1996 has not tabled its international farm reform.

The deadline was Oct 15. In this areas, there remains an enormous gap between the US and the EC. Washington and the Cairns Group, a bloc of leading agricultural exporting countries which includes five ASEAN members (Brunei has not joined the GATT), Australia and New Zealand, have called on the participants to reduce their internal support by 70 percent with a deeper cut in export subsidies. The EC offer was harshly criticized by the other participants as absolutely insufficient.

On GATT dispute settlement, which Karun personally sees as the most crucial message of the statement, ASEAN emphasizes that any trade dispute should be settled multilaterally. Under the US Trade Act, the US Trade Representataive [USTR] is empowered to retaliate against trading partners which it considers as employing unfair trade practices against its exports or producers—unilaterally.

The cigarette row between Thailand and Washington is a case in point. The USTR is conducting a public hearings on whether Thailand's ban on the advertising and promotion of foreign cigarettes is subject to retaliatory action under its legislation. It is expected to announce a decision on Nov 25.

On market access, ASEAN wants to see substantial improvement in participants' offers to reduce customs duties, which are still short of the 33 percent overall reduction in tariffs. Malaysia, a major exporter of tropical products, is believed to have sold this idea to other ASEAN members. Karun said that Thailand is not keen on this particular issue, adding that participating countries should improve their own offers if they want to strike a better deal.

Over the GATT codes on anti-dumping and countervailing measure, which some industrial nations (the US and EC) want tighter rules to offset subsidies and prevent cheap exports into their domestic markets, ASEAN states that these measures should not be used in the disguise of trade restrictions or harassment of developing countries.

On textiles and clothing, ASEAN calls on participants to make an immediate agreement on the modality and time frame during which textiles and clothing trade, which is governed by the Multi-Fibre Arrangement [MFA]—a provision under the GATT which allows inporting countries to impose quotas on imports to protect their industries—be bought into the free-trade principle of the GATT. The MFA will expire in July next year.

The future of the talks, according to Karun, remains unpredictable. It is likely that the EC would come up with a final farm reform package on Dec 3, the day when ministers start to conclude the Round in Brussels. The EC proposal might not offer any room for negotiation at all, he feared. But it's possible that on the last day. [sentence as published]

Japanese Companies To Open Shop in Batam Park

OW2610115090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1121 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Singapore, Oct. 26 KYODO—Japanese companies are out in front in seeking to take advantage of cheap and abundant labor in Indonesia's Batam Island under the "growth triangle" project linking Singapore, and parts of Indonesia and Malaysia in de facto economic cooperation. At least nine Japanese manufacturing companies, many of them middle-sized firms dealing in electronic components, will open shop in the Singapore-Indonesia Joint Venture Industrial Park on Batam next year, an official at Batamindo Industrial Management, which designed and is marketing the park, told KYODO NEWS SERVICE Friday. The figure is a clear indication of Japanese interest and commitment in the growth triangle that integrates Singapore, Malaysia's southernmost state of Johor and Indonesia's Rhiau Province, the official said.

The brainchild of Singaporean First Deputy Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, the idea of the "growth triangle" is to present the three as a single investment focus instead of separate areas competing for capital. Singapore, the region's most industrialized country, thought up the idea mainly to overcome its severe land and labor shortage.

The nine Japanese companies account for about a third of the total number of 32 companies, including 10 from Singapore and four from the United States, which have confirmed their tenancy in the 500-hectare park expected to be ready early next year.

Batam, a free trade zone about 30 minutes southeast of Singapore by ferry, promises cheap and abundant labor from populous Java and other parts of Indonesia at a time other Southeast countries are suffering from "labor pains."

The latest Japanese company to announce the opening of a factory in Batam is Giken Sakata, a Japanese precision components manufacturer, which already has three factories in Singapore and a newly-opened one in Johore. Giken Sakata, a joint venture between Japan's Giken Engineering and Sakata Inc., will open a factory in the park in March next year for machining and assembly of tape recorders, video tape recorders and compact disc mechanisms. The company is expected to employ about 450 workers.

"We're going to Batam in search of cheaper labor," said Eiju Yokota, the company's general manager, noting that it will cost him only about 215 Singapore dollars (126 U.S. dollars) a month for every worker he hires. In labor-scarce Singapore, Yokota has to pay an estimated 900 to 1,000 Singapore dollars for each assembly-line worker, including the wage itself, a foreign worker levy, dormitory charges and bonus.

Even Johore is feeling industrial overcrowding—and workers are getting hard to come by.

Yokota says he pays 300 to 350 Singapore dollars a month for each worker he hires from the east coast of the peninsula.

Two of the Sumitomo group's largest subsidiaries, Sumitomo Electric Industries and Sumitomo Wiring Systems signed up as the first tenants of the park in May this year and announced they will invest 30 million Singapore dollars and hire 1,000 Indonesian workers. Their factory is expected to start operations in January next year.

Another Japanese company which has confirmed its tenancy is Japanese car audio maker, Ten Corp. (Singapore). Batamindo declined to reveal the names of the other Japanese companies.

But even more Japanese investors are likely to be lured to the park.

Singaporean Trade and Industry Minister Lee Hsien Loong has said that a joint mission from Singapore and Batam will head for Tokyo and Osaka this December to woo Japanese investors to Batam.

Lee said the Japanese could use Batam as a manufacturing base to complement their other activities in Southeast Asia, adding that cash-rich Japanese firms could play an important role in the development of the Rhiau Province.

The leaders of both Indonesia and Malaysia have given their blessings to the growth triangle concept.

In August this year, Singapore and Indonesia signed an agreement to jointly develop tourism, water supply and industries in the Rhiau Islands. They also signed an investment guarantee agreement to protect each other's investments from seizures and other risks.

Japan

Nakayama on SDF Gulf Transport Contingent

OW2610152990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1508 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 26 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama suggested Friday that the Japanese Self-Defense Force (SDF) contingent attached to the proposed Japanese U.N. Peace Cooperation Corps could transport arms, ammunition and fuel to ships of multinational forces deployed in the Persian Gulf.

Nakayama also said the proposed cooperation corps could work with U.N. peacekeeping teams as long as their own activities did not involve the actual use of force, even though the U.N. teams' purpose and tasks entailed force.

Nakayama expressed this view in response to questions from opposition parties in the House of Representatives' Special Committee on U.N. Peace Cooperation. The committee is discussing a government-proposed U.N. peace cooperation bill, which would pave the way for SDF personnel to be sent overseas.

The foreign minister said SDF supply ships and transport aircraft would participate in the proposed peace cooperation corps. "The supply ships would extend cooperation to vessels of the multinational forces of the United States, Britain, France and other countries deployed in the Persian Gulf," Nakayama said.

Government officials have so far said the specific SDF tasks would be studied upon requests for SDF cooperation.

Creation of the U.N. Peace Cooperation Corps, which would include members of the SDF serving in a noncombatant role, is a key feature of the U.N. peace cooperation bill presented by the government.

Nakayama clarified the difference between "participation in" and "cooperation with" U.N. forces, presenting the unified government view on the matter.

He said that, under the Constitution, the proposed peace cooperation corps would not be able to participate in a U.N. force if the U.N. team's purpose and tasks would be involved the use of force.

Nakayama, however, said the Japanese corps could cooperate with such a U.N. team as long as its own activities were not "closely connected with the use of force," even though the U.N. team's purposes and tasks might include the use of force.

The foreign minister said "joining" a U.N. team meant for the Japanese corps to serve directly under U.N. command, whereas to "cooperate with" a U.N. team was understood to mean giving various kinds of support from outside.

Nakayama also conveyed the unified government view on the "small arms" which the projected Japanese corps member will be allowed to carry.

Nakayama promised there will be a stipulation that members of the corps will be allowed to carry only pistols and rifles.

The opposition demanded clarification of the kinds of arms to be carried by the peace corps personnel because the government-proposed bill only says that "small arms may be lent to members of the corps." Nakayama, however, rejected an opposition demand to clearly stipulate in the proposed bill the inoperability of Article 87 of the SDF Law which allows the SDF to carry "necessary arms" in pursuing their various tasks. Nakayama said the bill as it stands satisfactorily covered such matters.

At the special committee session, Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu repeated his resolve to enact the bill during the current extraordinary session of the Diet, scheduled to end on November 10.

But Seiken Sugiura, a lower house member of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], proposed that the government compromise with the opposition parties by revising the current bill. It was rare for an LDP member to propose a revision of the government-proposed bill.

Opposition parties are against the proposed overseas dispatch of SDF personnel, saying it runs counter to the Constitution that is widely regarded as banning the exercise of the right of collective self-defense.

Outside the Diet, Japan Socialist Party Chairwoman Takako Doi the same day told a meeting in Tokyo called to oppose the sending of the SDF overseas that she urged Kaifu to withdraw the bill.

JSP's Doi Leads SDF Cooperation Bill Protest

OW2610154790 Tokyo KYODO in English 1455 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 26 KYODO—Japan Socialist Party [JSP] Chairwoman Takako Doi on Friday led some 30,000 protesters in a demonstration against the government's drive to enact a law to send Japanese military personnel overseas. The evening rally at Meiji Park, organized by the JSP and the Sohyo Center, surpassed the 23,000 demonstrators involved in a similar protest last Sunday at U.S. Forces Japan Headquarters at Yokota Air Base in western Tokyo.

Addressing the rally, Doi said, "this is the biggest crisis ever faced by the peace constitution" and vowed that the JSP "will fight using all means and tactics to bring down the bill."

Sohyo Center Chairman Eikichi Magara exhorted the crowd, "labor unions will exhibit the strength of their organizations and give their all" to turn back the controversial bill now being debated in the Diet.

Keiko Tsuwa, a leader of a housewives' organization against the proposed law, said "the peace constitution that was created through the sacrifices of Asia is being trampled upon. Let's join hands within and outside of the Diet and fight."

The Sohyo Center has decided to send 500 union members to the Diet building from Monday through November 8 to petition against the bill. On November 8, the Sohyo Center plans to stage another protest rally of young people and housewives in Hibiya Park in central Tokyo.

Urges Joint Front Against Bill

OW2810080690 Tokyo KYODO in English 0717 GMT 28 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—Japan Socialist Party Chairwoman Takako Doi said Sunday she will call on other opposition parties and Diet members to join her party to kill the government-submitted U.N. Peace Cooperation Bill in the current Diet session.

In an emergency meeting of secretaries general of JSP chapters nation wide, Doi said the party will make all-out efforts to oppose the sending abroad of the Japanese Self-Defense Forces (SDF) under the proposed legislation.

The bill seeks creation of U.N. Peace Cooperation Corps to pave the way for SDF personnel to be sent overseas to help U.N. peacekeeping activities.

She said JSP will try to establish joint front with Komeito, the United Social Democratic Party, the Democratic Socialist Party [DSP] and other opposition members. Doi also said her party will oppose the extension of the Diet session beyond its scheduled closing on November 10 and also to the continuation of debate on the bill in the next Diet session.

Tsuruo Yamaguchi, JSP secretary general, told reporters after the meeting that the joint front is possible, referring to the statement of Takashi Yonezawa, secretary general of the DSP, the only opposition party that supported the bill at the time it was presented to the Diet. Yonezawa said recently the bill should be killed or discussed further, retreating from the party's original stand.

Komeito Denies Compromise Over SDF Bill

OW2810115690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1018 GMT 28 Oct 90

[Text] Okayama, Oct. 28 KYODO—The leader of the country's No. 2 opposition party said Sunday Komeito will never help enact a government-proposed bill which would allow the dispatch abroad of noncombat troops, aircraft and ships from the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) to assist in international peacekeeping activities.

Koshiro Ishida said, "Komeito does not think there is any room to make a compromise" over the United Nations peace cooperation bill, currently under debate in the House of Representatives. Ishida told a news conference that government officials have so far failed to give satisfactory answers during Diet discussions of the bill.

Komeito, a Buddhist-supported centrist party, holds 46 of the 512 seats in the powerful lower chamber and 20 of the 252 seats in the opposition-controled second chamber, the House of Councillors. Komeito's support is essential for the cabinet of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu to win approval from the upper house because of strong objections from the Japan Socialist Party [JSP] Party, political analysts said.

Kaifu's ruling Liberal Democratic Party, which holds a comfortable majority of 284 seats in the lower house, holds 112 seats, short of a simple majority, in the upper house.

Ishida rejected a JSP call for concerted action against the bill, saying Komeito does not plan to develop a campaign with the largest opposition party. He said, however, that his party has no intention of emphasizing its differences with the JSP, suggesting the possibility of an eventual joint effort to kill the U.N. Peace Cooperation Bill.

Rome Joint Gulf Talks Planned 'Around' 5 Nov

OW2710030090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0243 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Excerpt] Washington, Oct. 26 (KYODO)—The United States, Japan, and other major donor countries will hold a high-level meeting in Rome next month to discuss how best they can assist the frontline states affected by the Persian Gulf crisis, a Japanese diplomat said Friday.

The diplomat said the meeting in Rome will take place around November 5 "to maintain momentum" for the international coalition for economic aid to Egypt, Turkey, Jordan, and possibly other countries hard hit by the crisis stemming from Iraq's invasion and annexation of Kuwait.

Subcabinet-level representatives of the U.S., Japan, West European countries, and other donors will renew their commitments to aid the frontline states and exchange views on their efforts so far, the diplomat said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Deputy Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada will head the Japanese delegation to the Rome meeting. [passage omitted]

Kaifu Criticizes Opposition on UN Peace Bill

OW2810064090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0608 GMT 28 Oct 90

[Text] Nagoya, Oct. 28 KYODO—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu on Sunday criticized the opposition's arguments against the government's United Nations

Peace Cooperation Bill, and renewed his wish to have it approved during the current extraordinary Diet session, which will end on November 10.

Kaifu, who is visiting Nagoya to support a by-election for the House of Councillors in his native Aichi Prefecture, however did not tell reporters about a possible amendment of the bill or extension of the current Diet session.

Meanwhile, Ichiro Ozawa, secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), said in a press conference in Okayama that the bill could be partially revised to incorporate better ideas from other political parties. But he said that the fundamental context of the proposed bill, hastily proposed in the wake of growing criticism from the United States of lack of Japan's physical contribution to the resolution of the Persian Gulf crisis, will not be changed. The bill calls for the creation of a U.N. Peace Cooperation Corps which would allow dispatch of noncombat Self-Defense Forces [SDF] personnel overseas to engage in peacekeeping activities.

Opposition parties criticize any dispatch of SDF personnel as violation of the Constitution which is widely viewed as banning exercise of the right of collective self-defense.

Kaifu said the opposition parties give misleading impressions about the true intention of the bill. "Their discussions incorrectly imply that with the participation of the SDF, Japan is planning on military deployment overseas, sending tanks and so on," Kaifu said.

He pledged to deepen public understanding of the basic non-use-of-forces principle of the bill in the remaining two weeks of the Diet session.

While denying at the moment extension of the Diet session, Ozawa indicated that the party will again submit the bill in a different form if it failed to be passed during the current session.

Ozawa said the proposed legislation should not be considered as being applicable to a limited time to serve particular purpose. "The bill aims for the moment at dealing with the current Gulf crisis. But Japan's international responsibility is not confined only to the Gulf crisis," Ozawa said.

He said that the Kaifu cabinet will not bear direct responsibility in the case the current Diet session failed to pass the bill.

On the visit to Iraq by former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone next month, Kaifu said the government will carefully watch the visit as part of political dialogue with Iraq. He suggested the government has strong interest in the visit in connection with the question of the Japanese hostages detained by Iraqi authorities. Kaifu indicated he does not intend to ask Nakasone to deliver a personal letter to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

Rejects Withdrawal of Peace Bill

OW2910072190 Tokyo KYODO in English 0651 GMT 29 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct 29 (KYODO)—Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu rejected an opposition request Monday to withdraw the controversial government-proposed bill aimed at sending Japanese Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel overseas.

"The government proposed the bill (at the current Diet session) because it believes it necessary. I hope Diet members continue debate and pass the bill," Kaifu said in response to questions from a Japan Socialist Party member at the House of Representatives' special committee on the U.N. Peace Cooperation Bill.

But Kaifu suggested the bill could be partially revised through talks with opposition parties and called on them to present their own bills.

"Opposition parties reportedly have their own idea on mechanisms for peace cooperation and are ready to present their bills for peace cooperation. There would be many items in these which are compatible with the government bill to cooperate with the United Nations such as transportation, medical, and communication services," Kaifu said.

Creation of the U.N. Peace Cooperation Corps is the key to the proposed bill. Opposition parties have opposed the bill partly because they say the corps, including SDF members, contravenes the Constitution which is widely viewed as banning collective defense.

Asked about the dispatch of U.S. forces from Japan to the Middle East, Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama said the United States is not obliged to inform Japan of such matters because they are not matters of prior consultation stipulated in Article 6 of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty. He said U.S. forces dispatched from Japanese territory so far were not for direct participation in fighting.

A senior Foreign Ministry official said Japan has been informed by U.S. authorities of the military situation in the Mideast outside the framework of the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty. He said the U.S. will send the aircraft carrier Midway, the missile cruiser Bunker Hill, and several other vessels to the Middle East in November from U.S. bases in Japan.

Kaifu said he praised the increased moves toward a peaceful solution to the Persian Gulf crisis such as meetings between Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and French President Francois Mitterrand.

"I am closely watching with the hope that President Saddam Husayn of Iraq will withdraw his forces from Kuwait as a first step to resolving the problem," Kaifu said.

Replying to another question from a ruling Liberal Democratic Party member, Kaifu said both the U.N.

Charter and the Japanese Constitution aim at peace and prosperity for the world. The proposed government bill does not contravene the Constitution, he said.

Meanwhile in Matsuyama, Ehime Prefecture, western Japan, former Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said the government bill should be passed in the Diet with revisions if necessary. "The bill is narrowly permitted under the Constituion," Miyazawa said. Miyazawa criticized opposition party arguments that children will have to be sent to the war front under the bill.

Miyazawa said Japan should limit its contribution to world peace to areas of nonmilitary personnel.

In Tokyo, two civic activists began a hunger strike in front of the Defense Agency. Koji Izawa, 62, from Kanazawa, Ishikawa Prefecture, and Machiko Yoshida, 53, from Kyoto Prefecture, are calling for opposition to sending Japanese troops abroad and an end to the bill which they said contravenes the Constitution.

Nakasone Changes Itinerary of Iraq Visit

OW2910143490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1411 GMT 29 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct 29 (KYODO)—Former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone changed his scheduled departure for Iraq from Thursday (November 1) to Saturday (November 3), ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) officials said on Monday.

The departure of Nakasone and an LDP delegation led by Deputy LDP Secretary General Takayuki Sato was changed due to an altered itinerary by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, the officials said. The officials quoted Iraqi Ambassador to Japan Rashid al-Rifai as saying that President Husayn wanted to meet Nakasone after November 4.

Nakasone and the LDP delegation will leave for Baghdad early Saturday and will arrive in Baghdad at night on the same day, officials said. Nakasone is scheduled to meet Husayn on Sunday, the officials said.

Nakasone and the LDP delegation under Sato will make the visit at the invitation of Iraq's ruling Baath Party and a private Iraqi peace group called the Organization of Friendship, Peace and Solidarity.

Sato said earlier Monday at a regular consultative meeting of top government and LDP officials that Iraqi authorities have confirmed that President Saddam Husayn will meet with Nakasone and members of the LDP delegation.

Sato said earlier Monday that the delegation will carry clothes, medicine and other relief articles for the Japanese hostages on behalf of their relatives in Japan. Relief goods will also be delivered to other foreign nationals trapped in Iraq, Sato said. Iraqi authorities have promised to deliver the relief goods to the parties concerned without opening them, he said.

Earlier in the day, Iraqi Ambassador Al-Rifai called on Nakasone to hand him the letter of invitation from the Iraqi peace group.

Nakasone pledged all possible efforts to peacefully resolve the Gulf crisis brought about by Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on August 2 and its subsequent annexation.

A total of 313 Japanese nationals, including 139 men at strategic military and industrial facilities in Iraq, are being held captive in Iraq and Kuwait. Some 43 sick Japanese hostages have been released so far.

To Meet Hostages in Baghdad

OW2910111890 Tokyo KYODO in English 0821 GMT 29 Oct 90

[Excerpt] Tokyo, Oct 29 (KYODO)—Former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone will meet Japanese nationals trapped in Iraq and deliver relief goods for other foreign captives during his upcoming trip to Iraq, a senior Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) official said Monday. Deputy LDP Secretary General Takayuki Sato, who will be traveling with Nakasone, described the trip as a "peace mission," saying the primary purpose of the visit is to talk with Japanese nationals held hostage in Iraq.

Nakasone and an LDP delegation under Sato will leave for Baghdad on Thursday for a five-day visit at the invitation of Iraq's ruling Baath Party and a private Iraqi peace group called the Organization of Friendship, Peace, and Solidarity.

Speaking at a regular consultative meeting of top government and LDP officials, Sato said Iraqi authorities have confirmed that President Saddam Husayn will meet Nakasone and members of the LDP delegation.

[Passage omitted]

NHK Commentator Gives Impression of Saddam

OW2610012490

[Editorial Report] Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese at 1408 GMT on 25 October carries an eight-minute discussion program between NHK newscaster Kazuma Yamane and NHK commentator Kentaro Hirayama, who interviewed President Saddam Husayn in Baghdad on 20 October, at the NHK studio on impressions of Saddam and the Middle East situation.

Describing the atmosphere at the interview, Hirayama says that about 20 military officers and officials "stood rigidly, like poles" when President Saddam, in plain clothes, entered the interview room. Describing his impressions of Saddam, Hirayama says that Saddam "glared at me with a dreadful look, piercing my mind" when he entered the room, and adds that, however, the 80-minute interview was held "in an amicable atmosphere."

After five minutes of discussion between Yamane and Hirayama on reports by a local newspaper on the interview, the flight from Amman to Baghdad, the Middle East situation, and the prospects for settling the Gulf crisis, the program ends.

Soviet Warships Said Spotted Near Okinawa

OW2810112290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1108 GMT 28 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—Two advanced Soviet warships capable of firing nuclear missiles were spotted Sunday moving north in the East China Sea about 45 kilometers west of Okinawa, Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force officials said. The officials said a maritime force airplane made the sighting of the two vessels, a Slava class missile cruiser and a Sovremenny class destroyer.

The officials said the warships are likely to be heading for Vladivostok, a Soviet naval port in the Far East. On October 2, Soviet authorities made an unprecedented announcement through the official TASS NEWS AGENCY that they would bring the two ships into their Far East port from Europe.

According to Jane's fighting ships, the Soviet Union has so far launched four Slava class cruisers, weighing 9,800 displacement tons, equipped with 16 nuclear cruise missile launchers. It is the first ship of its kind deployed in that region by the Soviet Navy.

The 6,700-ton Sovremenny class destroyer also is equipped with eight nuclear missile launchers, it said.

Moscow Mayor Urges Territories Clarification

OW2910124690 Tokyo KYODO in English 1151 GMT 29 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct 29 (KYODO)—The Japanese Government should facilitate peace treaty negotiations with the Soviet Union by clarifying that its claims on Soviet-held territory are limited to four islands off Hokkaido, Moscow's Mayor Gavriil Popov said here Monday.

Popov, speaking to reporters at the Japan National Press Club, also proposed that the Soviet and Japanese Governments resolve their territorial problem "in the context of bringing the Second World War to a conclusion. The first thing that needs to be done is to clarify what is the object at issue here," said Popov, a self-proclaimed member of the "Democratic Forces" in the Soviet Union who has resigned from the Communist Party.

"It is my view that the only thing which can be at issue is the four islands," he said, adding that any irredentist ambitions on the part of Japan beyond that would close the door to fruitful negotiations. Popov was alluding to Soviet uneasiness over Japan's non-recognition of Soviet rule over the southern half of Sakhalin Island and the Kuril Archipelago.

Japan officially demands only the four islands off Hokkaido it calls its "northern territories," but says the final disposition of the other Soviet-occupied territories renounced by Japan in the 1956 San Francisco Peace Treaty has never been decided under international law.

Popov said that recognizing Japanese claims on Sakhalin, a large resource-rich island immediately north of Hokkaido, would give China grounds to push its claims in areas of the Amur River and legitimize Turkey's aspirations in the Caucasus. Likewise, he said, by using historical possession to justify territorial claims, the Soviet Union could begin demanding the return of Alaska on the grounds that its sale to the United States by Russia's Czarist Government was illegitimate.

The various republics in the Soviet Union could also begin asserting claims on each other's territory based on former borders, he noted. "This kind of problem cannot be solved by basing arguments on various historical grounds," Popov said of the current dispute with Japan over the four islands.

"So when speaking about the northern territories issue, instead of looking back on the past, we should fix our sight on the future," he said.

Popov called for the issue to be resolved "in the context of bringing the Second World War to a conclusion...and with a view to what is in the best interests of both nations on the basis of fair principles." He said that while the various decisions made just before the end of World War II were based on the view that Japan was an aggressor state, "Japan has since shown itself to be a peace-loving state."

The Soviets seized southern Sakhalin and the Kurils in the closing days of war on the basis of a secret agreement concluded with allied leaders at Yalta, whereby Moscow agreed in exchange to enter into the war with Japan.

The four islands now demanded by Japan were also occupied. The Soviets assert that they form part of the Kurils renounced by Japan in 1956, while Japan claims they are geographically and historically distinct.

When Japan and the Soviet Union began normalization talks in 1955, Japan's opening position was to call for the return of the southern half of Sakhalin and all islands lying between Hokkaido and the Kamchatka Peninsula. With the exception of the four islands, Japan has since dropped its claims to those territories, but government maps show them as neither part of Japan or part of the Soviet Union.

The official platform of Japan's leading opposition group, the Japanese Socialist Party, is to call for return not only of the four islands but the entire Kuril Archipelago, while the Japan Communist Party also wants southern Sakhalin.

Businessmen Remark on Investing in Soviet Union

OW2810045390 Tokyo KYODO in English 0411 GMT 28 Oct 90

[By A.H. Yamaguchi]

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—Now that the Soviet Union appears to be drifting toward a market economy, you would expect Japanese firms to be waiting in line to take advantage of the myriad of investment opportunities eagerly awaiting them.

But are they? Well, according to a number of trading houses and experts on the subject, the answer is "yes and no." Of course the opportunities look very tantalizing, but there are enormous risks involved, they said. "We'd love to do business with them, but there are simply too many uncertainties, too many factors left unresolved," said an official with a leading trading house, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"We are going to keep a close watch on events to get a better grasp of the situation there before making any major moves," he said. "The instability of the country's currency and its unfamiliarity with market practices makes us think twice about embracing the opportunities before us," he said.

The plunging value of the ruble and its inability to be readily converted into other currencies discourages investment since it will make it extremely hard for firms to take home hard cash.

"The Soviet Union's overall inexperience with market practices makes the question of payment another slippery matter," he said.

"Their relative inexperience in the use of letters of credit, for example, makes us hesitant about having them pay for goods and services with them," he said. A letter of credit is an arrangement whereby a bank agrees to substitute its credit for a customer's under specified conditions.

"Another matter left unresolved is whether Cocom restrictions will be lifted completely or just partially," he added. The Paris-based Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls (Cocom) is now considering removal of a number of categories from its list of items currently banned from export to former East bloc nations by Western countries.

Tatsuhiko Komiya, senior business researcher at Toray Corporate Business Research Inc., cited the growing decentralization of the Soviet Union as another obstacle to foreign investment. "Who do you contact to get the final go-ahead for a project, the central government or the individual republics," he asked. "Civil unrest springing from ethnic rivalries are also keeping firms from making bolder moves."

"I can see small- and medium-sized firms taking the plunge, but not large firms—the risks are just too big," he said.

However, the Japanese arguments against investment left Sergey L. Agafonov, a Tokyo staff correspondent for the Soviet Government newspaper IZVESTIYA, unconvinced. "Business is very risky. Very risky in any country, in Japan as well." The U.S., Canada, and South Korea are also aware of the dangers involved in investing in the Soviet Union, but they do it because "it's cheap now," he said.

The Soviet Union prefers the South Korean way of doing business to that of the Japanese, he added. They execute their plans right away. Once they decide to do something, they do it right away. That's why Soviet-South Korean joint ventures are working so well. The Japanese take so long in converting their plans into action, he said.

The Soviet Union needs projects now, he said. He said there is talk that Japan could miss "the train" or investment opportunities the Soviet Union offers. But he disagreed. "Japan will not miss the train. But it could miss the cheap ticket for the train." He said the Japanese will invest eventually, when the situation is more stable and less risky. "But the price at that time will be much higher than today," he said.

SRV Foreign Minister on Aid; Korea, PRC

OW2710103990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1028 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 27 KYODO—Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach on Saturday expressed concern over a Japanese bill which proposes sending troops overseas to assist in international peacekeeping activities.

Thach, speaking at a press conference before ending a six-day visit to Japan, said he "listened carefully" to Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama's explanation of the plan to set up a United Nations Peace Cooperation Corps under the bill.

Thach, the first Vietnamese foreign minister to pay an official visit to Japan in 12 years, met earlier in the day with Nakayama. Nakayama told Thach the proposed bill should not be cause for anxiety for Japan's neighbors.

Thach told reporters Vietnam is deeply concerned over the Persian Gulf crisis. But he said, "the existence of Japanese troops in areas outside Japan will revive the memory of the Japanese army during World War II."

Similar concerns have been expressed by China and South Korea, victims of Japanese wartime aggression.

Thach called on Japan for bilateral economic cooperation, and said the Vietnamese economy is nearing parity in imports and exports, and rice exports ranked third largest in the world last year.

Vietnam has suffered little from decreasing economic assistance from the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, because exports are catching up with imports after nearly one decade of a trade deficit, Thach said.

The annual inflation rate fell from 1,000 percent in 1988 to 40 percent last year, and exports rose from 30 percent to 75 percent of imports in 1989, and will possibly reach 90 percent by the end of this year, Thach said.

"In the 1990s, the traditional image of Vietnam as winning the war but losing its economy is changing," Thach said through an interpreter.

Japan has suspended economic assistance to Vietnam since 1978, when Vietnamese troops invaded Cambodia.

Vietnam is seeking an active foreign policy role to improve relations with Japan, China, the United States, Western Europe, and the six-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Thach said. He said Vietnam and the U.S. have agreed to set up a working group of geographers, military experts, and war historians to research the fate of American soldiers still unaccounted for from the Vietnam War.

Thach criticized the North Korean stance against South Korean contacts with other nations as "very abnormal," especially as the two Korean prime ministers are meeting for talks.

On relations with China, Thach said both sides are now exchanging "rice and apples" instead of ammunition, and expressed his wish to visit China "as early as possible." Thach did not indicate when his China visit was likely to take place, only saying that China is like a "Pandora's box" and it "likes to surprise the whole world."

In a clandestine Sino-Vietnamese meeting in southern China early last month, both sides agreed generally on the Cambodian issue, and the need to improve bilateral relations, Thach said.

But he criticized China for their support of the Khmer Rouge faction of Cambodia's tripartite resistance coalition, and for insisting the Supreme National Council (SNC), an interim authority for Cambodia's national reconciliation, be composed of 13 members instead of 12 as agreed in Tokyo last June between Hun Sen, premier of the Vietnam-installed Phnom Penh government, and coalition leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

Thach warned that excessive intervention from the United Nations in the SNC would violate Cambodian sovereignty.

During his stay in Japan, Thach met with Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, Foreign Minister Nakayama and business leaders.

Receives Pledge for More Aid

OW2710063090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0541 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 27 (KYODO)—Japan will expand its aid to Vietnam, Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama pledged Saturday during talks with his Vietnamese counterpart Nguyen Co Thach.

Foreign Ministry officials said that Nakayama, in almost two hours of talks with Thach, said that Japan intends to strengthen its aid to Vietnam in the categories of cultural and humanitarian assistance. But officials said the pledge did not amount to a resumption of economic assistance, suspended in the aftermath of Vietnam's invasion of Cambodia in December 1978 and its installation of a pro-Hanoi government in place of the Khmer Rouge regime.

The two ministers issued a joint press statement calling on the four warring Cambodian factions to reconvene the recently established Supreme National Council (SNC) as soon as possible to iron out differences over their proportional representation in the body. As envisioned, the SNC would work with the United Nations to administer Cambodia in a transitional period following a ceasefire and leading up to elections.

In their statement, Nakayama and Thach also confirmed their support for the comprehensive framework for peace developed by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council. The statement said that Thach, who is the first Vietnamese foreign minister to pay an official visit to Japan since 1978, invited Nakayama to visit Hanoi in the near future. It said that Nakayama "gratefully accepted" the offer, but officials added that the Foreign Ministry has no time frame in mind. If realized, the visit would be the first ever by a Japanese foreign minister to Vietnam.

Nakayama told Thach that a bill the Japanese Government is now pushing in the Diet to establish a U.N. Peace Cooperation Corps is not something that should be a cause for concern in Japan's neighboring countries, officials said. They said Thach thanked Nakayama for his pledge to keep Asian nations closely informed of Japan's intentions and said he would convey Nakayama's remarks to his government.

Thach was quoted as praising the holding of a meeting of the foreign ministers of Asia-Pacific nations at the United Nations in New York in late September, which was co-hosted by Japan and Indonesia.

Nakayama agreed to Thach's proposal that the process of inter-Asian dialogue should be furthered by holding another such meeting or establishing a working group of representatives of participating nations. But officials stressed that Japan would have to act in concert with other countries with which it has close relations, particularly the six members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Responding to a Vietnamese request for aid for the thousands of Vietnamese workers stranded in Iraq, Nakayama said the matter would be considered by Japan if it were taken up by Vietnam in a formal request to the U.N.-affiliated International Organization for Migration.

Nakayama was quoted as welcoming that fact that the volume of bilateral trade is rapidly increasing. He said that while the level of Japanese investment in Vietnam is still low, it will hopefully increase, according to officials.

Thach, meanwhile, urged Japan to loosen the linkage it makes between the Cambodian issue and the issue of relations with Vietnam.

Nakayama was quoted as saying that Vietnam can be an "important partner" in cooperating for peace and prosperity in Indochina and Southeast Asia as a whole. With that in mind, he said, while the Cambodian issue has prevented Japan's extending economic assistance to Vietnam, Japan will go ahead with and strengthen cultural and humanitarian assistance in the future.

Nakayama pledged to send a fact-finding mission to Ho Chi Minh City later this month to study the prospects for extending assistance to rehabilitate a hospital there. He also said Japan will continue to assist U.N.-facilitated efforts to restore a historic section of Hoian, a city in southern Vietnam which was once a thriving port visited by Japanese traders. Officials said Japan has extended some 4 billion yen in cultural and humanitarian assistance to Vietnam since economic aid was frozen some 12 years ago.

Vietnam has called for a resumption of economic aid now that it has withdrawn its forces from Cambodia.

Following the talks, Japanese and Vietnamese officials signed an agreement providing for a Japanese grant in cultural assistance to Vietnam of up to 23 million yen for the purchase of broadcasting equipment, including dubbing equipment that would enable Vietnam to air foreign television productions.

The two countries agreed to consider the establishment of a Japanese consulate general in Ho Chi Minh City at the working level.

Preparatory Talks on Ties With DPRK Proposed

OW2510234490 Tokyo KYODO in English 2303 GMT 25 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 26 KYODO—Japan has proposed to North Korea that they should hold preparatory talks in Beijing in early November toward establishing diplomatic ties, government sources said Friday.

The Japanese Embassy in Beijing has conveyed the proposal to North Korean diplomats there, the sources said.

The Foreign Ministry will send a delegation led by an official with the rank of bureau chief to the preliminary talks, they said.

Japan hopes to hold full-fledged talks with North Korea after a regular meeting of Japanese and South Korean cabinet ministers scheduled for November 26 and 27 in Seoul.

The preparatory talks will follow an agreement reached in September between Japanese and North Korean political parties, urging their respective governments to open intergovernmental talks toward establishment of diplomatic ties "within November 1990."

Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party, the main opposition Japan Socialist Party, and North Korea's ruling Korean Workers' Party issued a joint declaration in Pyongyang on September 28, calling for the early establishment of diplomatic ties between Japan and North Korea.

"The three parties consider that Japan should fully and officially apologize and compensate the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) for the enormous misfortunes and miseries imposed upon the Korean people for 36 years and the losses inflicted upon the Korean people in the ensuing 45 years after the war," the declaration said.

Socialists To Send Delegation to DPRK in Nov

OW2710000090 Tokyo KYODO in English 2310 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 27 (KYODO)—The Japan Socialist Party (JSP) has decided to send a delegation to North Korea in November and is considering dispatching another group to South Korea in the future.

In a meeting Friday of the party's committee for North Korean issues, Japan's leading opposition party decided the mission to North Korea will be led by former party policy board chairman Yuzuru Shimazaki. The group will likely meet Korean Workers' Party Secretary General Kim Yu-sun to discuss warming inter-Korean relations and moves toward normalization in relations between Pyongyang and Tokyo.

Meanwhile, the JSP is considering a policy shift in case it receives an invitation to visit South Korea from Seoul's ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP). Previous JSP missions to South Korea have been at the invitation of opposition parties.

In the recent past, former JSP Chairman Masashi Ishibashi visited Seoul at the invitation of then-opposition leader Kim Yong-sam and the JSP recommended interparty exchanges with Kim's Reunification Democratic Party.

In January, opposition leaders Kim Yong-sam and Kim Chong-pil merged their parties with President No Tae-u's ruling Democratic Justice Party to form the current DLP.

The opinion has grown within the JSP that this new situation should not be an obstacle to relations between the JSP and the South Korean Government, which have been cool because of the JSP's close relations with North Korea.

Korean Conscripts Sue for Apology, Compensation

OW2910092490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0637 GMT 29 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct 29 (KYODO)—Ten members of a group of Koreans forced to serve in the Japanese military during World War II filed a suit with the Tokyo District Court on Monday demanding a public apology and compensation from the Japanese Government. The 10, representing a group of 22 people in Taejon, South Korea, including seven relatives of others conscripted into Japanese military service, indicated they are planning further actions in the Japanese courts to demand the Japanese Government recognize its wartime responsibilities to Koreans.

"It is a mockery of the Korean people and the bereaved families that the reality of (Korean) sacrifices has been completely concealed up to today," a spokesman for the plaintiffs said after filing their suit. "We hope for a quick settlement in this wrongful history and true friendship can develop," he said in a statement to the press.

During World War II, hundreds of thousands of Koreans, then under Japan's colonial rule of the peninsula, were conscripted into military service or forced to labor in Japanese mines or factories.

The Japanese Government has maintained that all questions of compensation were resolved with the 1965 basic treaty between Japan and South Korea. Seoul agreed to drop claims for war reparations in exchange for economic cooperation.

In August this year, however, the government was sued for some 200 million yen in assistance to Korean forced laborers stranded on the Soviet island of Sakhalin in the closing days of the war to enable them to visit South Korea. The Koreans in the latest suit, who labored for the Japanese in Southeast Asia, China, and on Okinawa, charge that they were subject to abuse, starvation, and sickness and then, after the war, abandoned. Some of the group also served prison terms for war crimes committed as members of the Japanese military.

In addition to an apology and compensation, the group is also seeking a survey of the sacrifices suffered by Koreans from the Japanese mobilization and restoration of the honor of Koreans convicted of war crimes.

Wrecked DPRK 'Spy Ship' Discovered on Coast

OW2910130290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1243 GMT 29 Oct 90

[Text] Fukui, Oct 29 (KYODO)—A wrecked North Korean spy ship carrying codes on board was found on the Sea of Japan coast in Fukui Prefecture, northeast of Osaka, police said Monday.

Fukui prefectural police said a passer-by discovered a wooden boat washed ashore at Kugushi, in Mihama town, 110 kilometers northeast of Osaka, Sunday morning. It was the first time in Japan a spy ship was discovered carrying code charts, police said.

Police said the 8.3-meter boat is believed to be a small craft deployed from a mother spy ship. The stern was broken, showing it may have been wrecked at sea, police said.

In the pilothouse investigators discovered two sheets of random numbers, and a conversion sheet of the Korean alphabet and numbers. A vinyl bag and iron sheet were also found, believed to be on board to throw the code devices into the sea if they were to be discovered, they said.

Fukui police are cooperating with neighboring Kyoto and Ishikawa prefectural police in looking for possible crew members and also investigating whether the boat could have been used to ferry spies in or out of Japan.

There have been police investigations to locate North Korean information agents who were rumored to have landed along the Sea of Japan coasts, and some cases of young Japanese who disappeared from the area.

In Fukui Prefecture, a young couple disappeared from the coast in July 1978, with their car left on the seashore. Police attempted unsuccesfully to locate them and mentioned the possibility of detention by North Korean agents.

The case was reviewed by police at the time of the 1987 bombing of a Korean airlines passenger flight over Myanmar [Burma]. A North Korean female agent, Kim Hyon-hui, who pretended to be Japanese, confessed to planting a bomb on the plane. She said in Seoul a kidnapped Japanese woman was her language teacher in North Korea.

African Envoys Told Kajiyama Remarks 'Wrong'

OW2610155090 Tokyo KYODO in English 1450 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 26 KYODO—Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama has told African ambassadors in Tokyo that recent derogatory remarks made about blacks by Justice Minister Kajiyama were "wrong and extremely inappropriate," a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Friday.

Spokesman Taizo Watanabe told reporters that Nakayama's remarks were contained in a letter delivered to a delegation of seven African envoys headed by Senegalese Ambassador Keba Birane Cisse, the dean of the African diplomatic corps in Tokyo.

The Foreign Ministry declined to release the text of the letter, but Watanabe paraphrased it as acknowledging that Kajiyama's remarks were "taken as racist," whatever his true intention may have been.

The spokesman said Nakayama informed the ambassadors in the letter that Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu has given Kajiyama a "stern warning" and that the minister of justice has retracted his remarks and apologized.

The African diplomatic group, representing all African embassies in Tokyo, had delivered a letter addressed to Nakayama to the Foreign Ministry earlier this month expressing "surprise and shock" at Kajiyama's remarks.

The justice minister had compared blacks with prostitutes by claiming that both ruin good neighborhoods.

The envoys had noted that the remarks were especially ill-timed considering the upcoming visit to Japan of South African nationalist leader Nelson Mandela, due in Tokyo on Saturday.

Watanabe said Nakayama asked in the letter for more understanding on the part of African people "about the fact that antiapartheid is one of the main principles of our foreign policy."

The envoys, who received the letter at the Foreign Ministry, were quoted as saying they appreciate the efforts pledged by the government to see to [it] that similar disparaging remarks about blacks are not repeated. But they added that all the problems relating to Kajiyama's statement "cannot be said to be all solved as a result of this letter," according to Watanabe.

In a related development Friday, the Japan Socialist Party (JSP), Japan's largest opposition party, issued a statement calling for Kajiyama's resignation, saying he was unsuitable for his post.

The statement criticized remarks attributed to him that "there is no discrimination against any racial group in Japan." It said such remarks conflicted with the fact that Koreans, blacks, Asian workers, Aboriginal Ainus, and Japanese descendents of a former outcast group all face discrimination in Japan.

Automakers React to New U.S. Clean Air Act

OW2710070790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0559 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 27 (KYODO)—Japanese automakers said Saturday a wide-ranging U.S. clean air bill passed the previous day by the U.S. House of Representatives is a challenge to the industry that will entail tremendous costs and new technology.

The new Clean Air Act, passed on a 401-25 vote, and expected to be passed also by the Senate, will require almost every major industry to reduce emissions causing urban smog, acid rain, toxic hazards, and ozone depletion. The set of measures mandated by the bill will mean increased pollution-control expenditures, industry sources said.

Among the objectives, the bill will tighten pollution controls on auto manufacturers and require them to reduce smog-forming and carbon monoxide emissions from cars.

A senior official at a major Japanese automaker said, "We may meet the first-phase requirements of the legislation by developing our conventional technology. But the second-phase provisions required by the early part of the next century will be a stiffer task for us to achieve completely," the official noted, adding that car manufacturers would have to develop vehicles based on an entirely new technological concept.

The industry sources said automakers and the oil industry will be required to produce cars that can run on cleaner-burning alternative fuels.

The new clean air bill specifies that tailpipe emissions of hydrocarbons and nitrogen oxides be reduced by 35 percent and 60 percent, respectively, in many new cars starting with the 1994 model year and in all new cars by 1996.

"Automakers now face a lot of challenges technically," an official at another major Japanese automaker said, pointing to a set of measures needed to protect against the dangers of global warming and other environmental problems.

Economic 'Blow' Predicted If Rice Liberalized

OW2710110490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1040 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 27 KYODO—Liberalization of Japan's rice import market will cause a sizable decrease in domestic rice production, dealing a heavy blow to the Japanese economy, the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries predicted Saturday. The ministry estimated Japan's gross domestic production (GDP) will fall 1.5 percent or 4.89 trillion yen a year if rice output decreases 30 percent due to liberalization of rice imports.

The ministry made the prediction based on an in-house study on the impact of rice import liberalization on the domestic economy. The study covered effects on farm-related industries at 3,245 localities nationwide. The study showed that the impact will be far greater than that caused by the 1973 Arab oil embargo, which caused Japan's GDP to fall 0.2 percent.

The ministry said the impact will be greater particularly in northern Japan where industries depend heavily on agriculture. The GDP will decrease 2.8 percent or 366 billion yen in the Hokuriku District and 2.4 percent or 520 billion yen in Tohoku. The minus effects will be 1.8 percent in Hokkaido and Kyushu, while those in Kanto, Chugoku and Shikoku and in Tokai and Kinki will be 1.4 percent and 1.3 percent, respectively.

The ministry estimated that rice liberalization will cause a GDP decrease of more than 5.0 percent in 1,032 local cities, towns and villages. The GDP will also decrease more than 10 percent in 286 localities.

A U.S. survey has shown that rice prices will fall 83 percent if the Japanese rice market is completely liberalized.

Protection To Be Granted Foreign Record Makers

OW2610165290 Tokyo KYODO in English 1441 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 26 KYODO—Japan is to grant more protective rights to foreign record makers and performers whose records have been available in Japanese record rental shops, the Cultural Affairs Agency said Friday. The agency says the move should stop criticism from foreign countries about discrimination in legal protection of Japanese and foreign records, compact disks, and tapes, agency officials told KYODO NEWS SERVICE.

The officials said the agency will submit the necessary bill to the next regular Diet session, pending discussions at a coming session of the country's copyright commission.

The revised law will first guarantee foreign record makers or performers the legal right to allow rental record shops in Japan to rent their products to the public, and to require payment.

Another point will be an extension from 30 to 50 years for the period the rights will remain effective.

The third point will be to ban bootleg reproduction of imported records which were produced abroad before 1978, when Japan joined an international convention on protection of records, the agency officials said.

Under the new policy, the officials estimated the total amount of commission to be paid to foreign record makers for permission for record rentals may be between 1 and 2 billion yen. Foreign records are not protected from Japanese record rental houses, while Japanese records are guarded under a law enacted in 1984 after rental firms mushroomed in the country.

The officials said the three-point bill is expected to include an agreement between the agency and Japanese rental shops on a one-week sanctuary period. This period is slated to start from mid-1991 in rental shops, and foreign records will not be allowed to be rented out for that week.

The officials also said after the European market integration in 1992, the rights will last for 50 years among Western nations.

A large bulk of unauthorized reproduced records, whose originals were made before 1978, have been sold at discount record shops in Japan. If the new policy is legalized, a convicted violation would result in possible imprisonment for up to one year, or fines of up to 300,000 yen, the same penalty as for Japanese-made records.

Panel Outlines 'Sweeping' Land Reform Plan

OW2910073790 Tokyo KYODO in English 0707 GMT 29 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct 29 (KYODO)—A government advisory panel on Monday completed a draft report on sweeping land policy reforms which emphasizes reducing land prices and reasonable use of land.

The report, worked out by the Land Policy Council, an advisory body to the prime minister, will become the basic guideline for implementation of the government's land policy, along with another report on land tax reform to be made public on Tuesday by the government-appointed Tax System Research Council.

The latest report calls for bringing down already high land prices, building a systematic framework for preventing the escalation of land prices, and securing appropriate and reasonable use of land.

Japanese land prices are abnormally high, compared with those in foreign countries, and continuing escalation may lead to discouraging people in their working lives, lessening the economic vitality of society, and adversely affecting the prices of various commodities, it warns.

The recommendation points to the need to break what many Japanese call the "land myth" that land prices never come down, in order to forestall or avoid repetition of a steep rise in land value. It says the government should take necessary measures to bring down land prices to a level at which the average salaried worker can purchase a house at a "reasonable cost."

The report specified strict enforcement of a land utilization program under which commercial and residential areas should be distinguished and construction of commercial buildings in the residential area should be regulated. The panel recommends this because the recent rises in land prices in commercial areas have spread through residential ones.

The report also calls for a heavier land tax, including the introduction of a new landholding tax, as a vital means for implementing the government's land policy.

The National Land Agency, which acts as the Secretariat of the council, will soon begin consultations on the report with relevant government ministries and agencies to prepare it for cabinet approval and make the recommendation a revised version of the 1988 land policy, a council member said.

Raid Reveals Plot To Jam Enthronement Broadcast

OW2610165190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1446 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 26 KYODO—Police said Friday they have unearthed plans by a radical leftist group to jam television broadcasts of Emperor Akihito's November 12 enthronement ceremony. Tokyo police said the plot was uncovered when investigators deciphered coded documents seized in a raid on a Chukakuha (Middle Core faction) hideout in Tokyo on October 1.

The metropolitan police department, meanwhile, said it is stepping up security as the enthronement approaches, mobilizing 26,000 police officers in the capital starting Saturday. The security force will be boosted in the second week of November to 32,000 officers, the department said. Police officials said they have ordered stepped-up checks of vehicles and their drivers, and are keeping a close watch on key areas of the city to deter attacks by radicals.

In addition to the Imperial Palace, Tokyo's Haneda Airport, where many foreign heads of state are to arrive, will be heavily guarded. On November 10 and 11, when many dignitaries are expected to arrive, 1,500 riot policemen will be stationed at the airport, the officials said. Up to 7,000 plainclothes officers will be deployed along the route of a motorcade taking the emperor and Empress Michiko from the Imperial Palace ceremony past the Diet to their residence, the Akasaka Palace, the officials said.

Chukakuha, which has claimed responsibility for fires at locations including a Shinto shrine, a police box and a private home in its campaign against the emperor system, has vowed to "destroy" the rites. It has threatened to break into the palace during demonstrations on the day of the enthronement. It has also said it will stop the November 22-23 Daijosai ceremony, a Shinto-based religious rite described as a private imperial family function.

Police pledged to counter the Chukakuha's alleged plot to jam telecasts of the enthronement with the help of the Posts and Telecommunications Ministry. They also called for cooperation from the mass media. The documents confiscated from Chukakuha included drawings showing how to transmit jamming waves from points 5, 10, 15 and 20 kilometers from Tokyo Tower, where most of the capital's television stations have transmitters, police said.

Police Suspect Anti-Imperial Group in Arson

OW2710071090 Tokyo KYODO in English 0442 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Mito, Oct 27 (KYODO)—A predawn fire suspected of being set by extremists early Saturday partially destroyed the house of Takeshi Muramatsu, a noted conservative critic and professor at Tsukuba University, police said.

Police said family members discovered the fire at about 3 A.M. Saturday when seeing the outer wall of the house engulfed in flames. The fire was quickly extinguished and no one was injured, police said. The home, in Tsukuba, northeast of Tokyo, was partially destroyed, they said.

Police said they suspect that small dry-cell batteries found near the site were part of a homemade bomb used to set the fire. The batteries were discovered near a plastic bucket that had been placed outside the kitchen, police said.

Muramatsu has cleared his position in favor of the "daijosai," a harvest Thanksgiving ceremony to be conducted by Emperor Akihito in November as part of a series of ceremonies to mark his enthronement. In recent months, extremists have stepped up their anti-emperor attacks in efforts to disrupt the November 12 enthronement ceremony.

LDP-Backed Candidate Elected Governor in Hyogo

OW2810130990 Tokyo KYODO in English 1238 GMT 28 Oct 90

[Text] Kobe, Oct. 28 KYODO—Incumbent Toshitami Kaihara was elected for the second four-year term Sunday as governor of Hyogo Prefecture.

Kaihara, 57, was backed by the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP], the Japan Socialist Party, Komeito, the Democratic Socialist Party, and the Social Democratic Federation. He defeated reformist candidate Mitsuru Oda, 58, backed by the Japan Communist Party, and two other candidates.

The vote count as of 9 P.M. was 398,885 to 64,355 in ODA's favor.

Former Justice Minister Hasegawa Dies 28 Oct

OW2810041490 Tokyo KYODO in English 0335 GMT 28 Oct 90

[Text] Tokyo, Oct. 28 KYODO—Former Justice Minister Shin Hasegawa died early Sunday of heart failure at a Tokyo hospital. He was 71.

Hasegawa, who assumed his first cabinet post as justice minister last February in Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's cabinet reshuffle, resigned seven months later on September 12 after he collapsed in the Imperial Palace while waiting for credential approvement for a Supreme Court judge.

A native of Nagaoka in Niigata Prefecture, he won a by-election for the House of Councillors in his Niigata constituency in May 1977 with the support of former Prime Minister Kakuei Tanaka, also a Niigata native.

The by-election to fill the seat vacated by Hasegawa's death will be held probably in mid-December, the Niigata Prefectural Election Management Committee said.

With his death, the LDP [Liberal Democratic Party] now has 112 seats in the 252-member upper house, Japan Socialist Party (JSP) 73, Komeito 20, and the Japan Communist Party 14, while 33 seats are held by minor parties and independents.

Hasegawa started his political career as a village assembly member, gradually climbing the ladder through town, city and prefectural assemblies, as well as serving three terms as secretary general of the prefecture's liaison office for the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

After winning his first national election in 1977, Hasegawa retained his seat in the upper house for three consecutive terms, while assuming such positions as parliamentary vice minister of posts and telecommunications, LDP's education division chairman and LDP deputy secretary general before becoming minister of justice in February.

Kaifu, who once served as education minister, expressed condolence over Hasegawa's death, recalling the time the two worked together on education matters.

Yoshihiko Tsuchiya, president of the House of Concillors, said he deeply regretted the loss of Hasegawa, his long time friend.

North Korea

N, S Agree Will Hold Liaison Contact 30 Oct

SK2710090690 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0830 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] A contact between responsible liaison officers of both sides for the North-South High-Level Talks was held today at Panmunjom, in our side's area of Tongilgak.

In today's contact, discussions were held on the date for the contact of the delegates to the North-South High-Level Talks to discuss the matter of the United Nations issue.

In today's contact, both sides agreed in principle to hold a contact of the delegates to discuss the matter of dealing with the United Nations issue. They decided to settle the date for the contact in the next responsible liaison officers' contact.

It was decided that the contact between the responsible liaison officers will be held again on 30 October at 1500 in the South side's area of Panmunjom.

Conference on Korean Unity Adopts Letter to U.S.

SK2610105190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1035 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 26 (KCNA)—A letter to the U.S. Government and Congress was adopted at the World Conference for One Reunified Korea by Means of Founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo which was held in Paris.

The letter says:

The world knows well that the United States is a party directly related to the division of Korea and the main force disturbing the reunification and peace of Korea.

The attendants of this conference solemnly confirm that now that a prospect of advance in achieving reconciliation and reunification has opened with the progress of sincere dialogue between the North and South, the U.S. Government and Congress bear particularly important responsibility for contributing to the positive solution of the Korean question.

The most effective step the U.S. should take to this end is to immediately discontinue the "Team Spirit" joint military exercises aggravating tensions on the Korean peninsula and withdraw U.S. troops 40,000 strong and over 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons from South Korea.

We also hope that the U.S. will take concrete steps for completely removing the danger of a new war from the Korean peninsula.

The attendants of this conference consider that if the U.S. is ready to buckle down to the positive resolution of the Korean question, it should give up the "two Koreas" policy and stop encouraging the south Korean authorities to go against the Korean people's desire for reunification.

We solemnly affirm once again that the positive settlement of the Korean question depends on the U.S. attitude.

We unanimously hope that the U.S. Government will come out to the tripartite talks involving the North and the South of Korea and the U.S. or bilateral talks with the DPRK advanced by the DPRK several times, with a sincere attitude to put an end to the tragic division of the Korean people and find a way of realizing the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea at an early date.

The letter expresses the expectation that the U.S. Government and Congress show an affirmative response.

Conference on DCRK Adopts Letter to South

SK2610114190 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1102 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 26 (KCNA)—A letter to the South Korean authorities was adopted at the World Conference for One Reunified Korea by Means of Founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo [DCRK] held in Paris.

The participants in the conference considered in unison that the best way of achieving the reunification of Korea is to realize the reunification of the North and the South through a confederation in accordance with the proposal for founding a democratic confederal republic of Koryo put forward by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the letter says, and continues:

We hope that the South Korean authorities will sincerely approach the proposal for founding the DCRK with a positive attitude.

We are very pleased that the way of dialogue and negotiation has been opened between the North and the South and hope that they will make unsparing efforts for a successful promotion of the dialogue and negotiation.

We consider that in order to create an atmosphere of trust between the North and the South and a climate favourable for the reunification of the Korean peninsula, it is important to realise free travel and complete opening between them.

In this regard, we hold that the South Korean authorities should pull down the concrete wall built in the area South of the military demarcation line and refrain from barring at the point of the bayonet people of all walks of life in South Korea from meeting with their kinsmen in the North and thus provide practical conditions for free travel and complete opening.

'U.S. Paper' Says South Should Pull Down Wall

SK2710070990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0411 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 27 (KCNA)—South Korea has its own wall which should be pulled down, said the U.S. paper INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE October 15.

Noting that South Korea built its own wall that makes the people ignorant and mentally weak, the paper held that the United States should urge South Korea to tear down the wall.

It wrote that South Korean young people, particularly, students, rebuke the United States for the division of the country, the Korean war, the hereditary military dictatorial "regime", no progress in the present process of democratisation, etc.

South Korean students trust North Korea, because they do not trust the South Korean "government, the paper said, and continued: they think that to call North Korea an "aggressor" is a typical anti-communist propaganda and, accordingly, it is a lie.

Radical students said the communist society is good because there are an ideological unity and a powerful party capable of creating circumstances for freedom, the paper noted, adding: they said the Eastern European countries have collapsed because they allowed the capitalist elements and weakened their parties.

It wrote that some students want to visit the North and ardently aspire after national reunification, condemning the South Korean "government".

When asked which world is better, it noted, students said they did not know because they have not lived in socialism, but they know capitalism is bad.

In another article titled "ice is breaking in Korea" the paper said that following the example of Japan, the United States, too, can widen the door for North Korea and, through it, ease tension on the Korean Peninsula and inspire wide-range contact between the North and the South of Korea.

Noting that now is the turn for Washington, the paper said the United States has a lot of things to benefit from its contact with the North, which makes it possible to ease tension on the Korean peninsula and withdraw its forces 45,000 strong and nuclear weapons from South Korea.

The paper said Seoul is fearful of contacts between the people in the North and the South.

Washington should encourage the process of detente on the Korean peninsula by means of expanding the contact with Pyongyang, it stressed.

Report on South's 'Concrete Wall' Made in Paris

SK2710070890 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0449 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 27 (KCNA)—Willy Burgeon, honorary chairman of the International Liaison Committee for the Reunification and Peace of Korea, member of the bureau of the Belgian Socialist Party and chairman of the Vallon District Council of Belgium, made a report on the second agenda item "On the Future Tasks for Intensifying International Pressure To Pull Down the Concrete Wall Built in South Side's Area and Realise Free Travel and Complete Opening Between the North and the South" at the World Conference for One Reunified Korea by Means of Founding the democratic confederal republic of Koryo held in Paris.

He said in his report that the concrete wall is not only a spiritual obstacle vividly showing the state of Korea's division and the dangerous phase of the cold war on the Korean peninsula but also an actual barrier blocking free travel and complete opening between the North and the South.

We are confronted with tasks to rouse the worldwide public opinion with materials based on facts so that the voice demanding the demolition of the disgraceful concrete wall may ring out, the reporter said, and continued:

We must, first of all, strip bare the aggressive and splittist nature of the concrete wall.

As we have confirmed at first hand on the spot, this concrete wall is not a mere "anti-tank barrier" but a wall in the true sense of the words in which they seek another purpose, political and military.

Then why do the South Korean authorities refuse to pull down the concrete wall, contending that there is no concrete wall and, if there is any, it is an insignificant "anti-tank barrier" ? It is because the South Korean authorities are afraid of the exposure to the world of the motive of the construction of this concrete wall, a product of the division and confrontation, which was aimed at perpetuating the division of Korea.

It is imperative to strongly demand once again the United Nations to dispatch without delay an international fact-finding team to confirm the existence of the concrete wall and take necessary steps according to the results of the investigation. It is also important for all the countries of the world to wage brisk activities in this direction.

The reporter continued:

The point is that we should make all our efforts to force the South Korean authorities to admit the existence of the concrete wall built by them and come out to the place for negotiation for its demolition.

To conduct worldwide campaign to expose the existence of the concrete wall is not only of importance in pressing the South Korean authorities to tear down the wall but also of weighty significance in making them affirmatively respond to the reunification proposal made by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

We must make all efforts possible to destroy the barrier of division and confrontation and realize free travel and complete opening between the North and the South.

Removal of 'Confrontation' on Peninsula Stressed

SK2610111390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1047 GMT 26 Oct 90

["Neither Peace nor Reunification Is Possible Without Removal of Political and Military Confrontation"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang October 26 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today stresses that the removal of the political and military confrontation between the North and the South is an important matter which must be solved before anything else for the development of the North-South relations and national reunification.

The paper says in a signed article:

At the second round of inter-Korean high-level talks, we proposed that essential importance be attached to the matter of removing the political and military confrontation between the North and the South and, simultaneously, exchange and cooperation be realised.

The military tension on the Korean peninsula is on a steady increase. Huge armed forces stand in acute confrontation with each other along the military demarcation line, and the danger of war which may be triggered by any accident is prevailing.

It is self-evident that if the acute confrontation continues, the distrust between the North and the South will grow deeper and the confrontation deteriorate and, eventually, another war will break out on the Korean peninsula.

The removal of the political and military confrontation is a requisite to the promotion of confidence between the North and the South and smooth exchange and cooperation between them.

The North and the South must put the main stress on the removal of this confrontation and conduct exchange and cooperation in parallel with it.

Even if the North and the South make exchange and trade while levelling guns at each other and whetting the swords for political and military confrontation, it will help towards nothing but confrontation.

Exchange and cooperation can contribute to building confidence only when they are conducted with priority given to the removal of this confrontation.

Calling for exchange and cooperation while ignoring the removal of this confrontation is as good as denying exchange and cooperation.

The removal of this confrontation is the way of building confidence and achieving peaceful reunification.

The question of removing this confrontation can be ignored by no one but those who hate national reconciliation, unity and reunification and want to reunify the country by means of war, not by peaceful means.

Either in view of the spirit for reunification growing among the fellow countrymen in the North and the South or in view of the world trend toward disarmament and detente, the South Korean authorities must buckle down to work to remove the political and military confrontation.

South's Surveillance of Students Denounced

SK2610115390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1108 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 26 (KCNA)—The Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland (CPRF) issued Information 573 today denouncing the South Korean authorities for their intelligence activities against and surveillance over people and students and their frantic repressive acts.

The materials found in the Suwon College of Natural Science of Songgyungwan University included records analysing the students' activities and materials classifying campus circles into "circles in question" and ordinary circles. They also included names and telephone numbers of agents belonging to the "Army Security Command", the "Security Planning Board [SPB]" and "police headquarters" who are in charge of intelligence and surveillance at campus and the specifications of revenue and expenditure amounting to some ten million won disbursed to the university council of chiefs of the students offices by the "SPB".

This is a typical example proving the vicious nature of the South Korean authorities hell bent on the fascist repression, after stretching their tentacles of intelligence and surveillance to campus, let alone the political and public circles, the information says, and continues:

At the same time, it shows that the "students offices" at all universities and colleges in South Korea are sinister plot-breeding groups that exist not for the education of the students but for service of intelligence tools.

The intelligence and surveillance activities which have been revealed frequently in South Korea and the ever undisguised, frantic repression clearly showed once again that the South Korean authorities are a truculent fascist military group surpassing the "Yusin" dictatorship and the "Fifth Republic" dictatorship and past masters in intelligence and terrorism.

The information further says:

While paying lip-service to "democratic politics", the South Korean authorities are openly brandishing the fascist club and, as if it were not enough, engaging in the despicable campus surveillance. This only indicates that their ruling crisis has gone to the limit.

The South Korean rulers' acts will result only in precipitating their own doom.

Seoul's Denial of Students Meeting Denounced

SK2610110790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1054 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 26 (KCNA)—MINJU CHOSON today charges that it was entirely owing to the obstructions of the South Korean authorities that the working-level talks between students of the North and the South slated for October 24 in Panmunjom with regard to the invitation of students in the northern half of the country to the reunification academic festival which is being prepared at campuses of South Korea ended abortive again.

Noting that this is a malicious challenge to the entire students in the North and the South who are afire with the desire for reunification and an act throwing a wet blanket over the fervor of the nation for reunification which is growing intense daily, the news analyst says:

The South Korean authorities blocked the working-level talks, alleging that the reunification academic festival is aimed at anti-"government" struggle and it is contrary to the accomplishment of the cause of reunification. This is a ridiculous assertion.

The initiative of the South Korean students to invite students of the North to the festival proceeded from the patriotic will to promote national reconciliation and unity and accelerate the reunification of the country reflecting the ever-growing desire of the fellow countrymen for reunification. What they desire is only to hold an academic forum on the reunification question together with the students of the North in the autumn festival of students and thus contribute, if only a little, to stepping up reunification.

The South Korean authorities who barred the righteous action of the South Korean students on preposterous pretexts are vicious splittists without an iota of reunification will and conscience.

Dailies View Arrest of South Student Leader

SK2710063690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0501 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 27 (KCNA)—The arrest of chairman Song Kap-sok of the "National Council of Student Representatives" (Chondaehyop) by the South Korean authorities on October 24 is an open challenge to the South Korean patriotic forces for reunification and an undisguised reactionary offensive aimed at checking the righteous activities of Chondaehyop, say NODONG SINMUN and MINJU CHOSON today.

The chairman of Chondaehyop was arrested after the South Korean chief executive declared "A war against crimes" and let all the police carry weapons and mobilized them in the suppression of the people, a news analyst of NODONG SINMUN says, and continues:

The fact clearly shows once again that the fascist row kicked up by the South Korean authorities is not for rounding up robbers but for obliterating the patriotic forces calling for independence, democracy and reunification.

The repressive offensive launched in South Korea is really a challenge to the purpose and demand of the people and it is a last-ditch effort of those on the eve of doom.

But the fascist suppression is bound to invite the people's resistance and it will result only in precipitating the destruction of the tyrants.

The South Korean authorities must stop the suppression of the forces for independence, democracy and reunification and immediately release Song Kap-sok, those who visited the North and all other illegally arrested patriots.

South's Guides 'Obstruct', 'Pester' Reporters

SK2610121590 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2100 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] The South side is openly attempting to obstruct the activities of our reporters who are now in Seoul to cover the North-South soccer game for reunification. A great number of guides are being mobilized for such an operation to block the coverage activities of the reporters.

The guides, even showing concern about our reporters going up and down between the 15th and 17th floors of Sheraton Hotel where the members of our side's teams stayed, tried to block them in many ways. The guides behaved so obscenely as to trail our reporters whenever they went up and down between the hotel floors—when three of our reporters went up to the 16th floor, three guides would trail them, and when five of our reporters went up to the 17th floor, five guides would follow them. Each time our reporters would hear them urgently call their fellow guides by name and issue orders to them to be quick.

The South side would even become rigid at the sight of our reporters meeting with their South side counterparts and would block them. Whenever the reporters of the North and South showed signs of meeting each other, those who identified themselves as guides would come in between them and would pester them with such obvious questions as why they wanted to meet, blocking these meetings from time to time on the grounds that such meetings were banned by their superiors. Also, whenever reporters of the North and South would happen to come together and strike up conversations, those who are called guides would come close to them to record their conversation in recorders hidden in their vest pockets.

The South side was more open in their attempt to block our reporters from talking to the ordinary residents.

On 22 October, when our reporters were looking around the Chamsil Stadium, an old lady from Kyongju told them: I am glad to see you reporters from the North. No sooner had this old woman said this than a guide from the South side rudely and impudently pulled our reporter toward a bus without a moment's hesitation, saying: We have no time.

Not only does the South side stand in the way of our reporters' coverage activities, but it also blocks the South Korean reporters from covering our reporters.

Commenting on this, CHUNGANG ILBO in its 22 October edition wrote: As is customary with visits to Seoul by figures from the North, agents who are identified as guides are always busy trying to distract reporters from contacting figures from the North. These agents who were crowding the lobby on the first floor of Sheraton Hotel's main building barred this reporter from going up to the first floor and above. When I would not listen and tried to force my way through, they violently tried to keep me from going any further. These agents again barred the South side's reporters from mingling with the North side's reporters when they tried to have drinks after concluding their official schedules. Seeing this, the North side's reporters even urged the South side's reporters to give up the idea, warning of the danger such an attempt may entail.

We came to Seoul for the North-South soccer game for reunification reflecting the ardent desire of the entire population for reunification. The South side's act of standing in the way of our reporters covering the soccer game demonstrates how desperately the South side tries to cover up the truth. It also lays bare the fact that the South clearly allows political interference in sports affairs and that the reconciliation and harmony referred to by the South side are lies.

If the South side really hopes for reconciliation instead of animosity, and for reunification instead of division, we call on it to stop standing in the way of our reporters' coverage activities in the South and to ensure conditions for their activities so they can convey well to the fellow countrymen in the North the desire of the fellow countrymen in the South for reunification.

Li Tieying Speaks at CPV Banquet 25 Oct

SK2610121490 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 25 Oct 90

[Speech by Li Tieying, member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, PRC state councillor, and minister of the State Education Commission, at a banquet arranged by Kim Il-song at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall in Pyongyang on 25 October to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the entry of the Chinese People's Volunteers to the Korean war—read by announcer]

[Text] Esteemed Comrade President Kim Il-song, leading cadres of the Korean party and government, and dear comrades:

The Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and the DPRK Government arranged grand ceremonial functions to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the participation of the Chinese People's Volunteers [CPV] in the Korean front. They invited the Chinese party and Government delegation, the Chinese people's friendship delegation, and other Chinese delegations to attend these functions. This vividly shows the fraternal Korean people treasure the great Chinese-Korean friendship and attach great importance to it and shows the relations between the two countries have constantly developed.

We are very happy and honored to attend these significant functions as the envoys of the Chinese people. Taking this opportunity on behalf of the CPC, Chinese Government, Chinese people, Chinese party and government delegation, Chinese people's friendship delegation, and other Chinese delegations, I express heartfelt thanks and greetings to the WPK, the Korean Government, and the fraternal Korean people.

In the grave period, 40 years ago, when the U.S. imperialists unscrupulously provoked the war of aggression against Korea and gravely threatened the security of China, President Mao Zedong took the wise step of sending the CPV to the Korean front. The CPV, organized with outstanding sons and daughters of the Chinese people, crossed the Yalu River, holding aloft the banner of: Resist America, aid Korea, safeguard the home, and defend the nation; and fought against the aggressors shoulder to shoulder with the Korean people. The Korean people, by waging a bloody struggle for three years with the support of the Chinese people and the peace-loving people in various countries of the world, defeated the outrageous U.S. aggressors and thus won great victory in the fatherland liberation war of Korea. This victory made important contributions not only in defending Korea's independence and its revolutionary gains but also in safeguarding peace in the Far East and the rest of the world. It also recorded a brilliant, important chapter in the history of the world after World War II.

While in Korea, the CPV felt the Korean people's deep and warm-hearted sympathy toward the Chinese people. The Korean people's great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the WPK, Korean Government, and Korean people wholeheartedly took care of the CPV. Numerous parents, brothers, and sisters of Korea helped and aided the volunteers in the face of danger and went so far as to sacrifice themselves for the volunteers. Although 40 years have passed since then, the impressive scenes of tender feelings between the Chinese and Korean people at that time still vividly remain in our memories.

We, who at this meeting overflowing with fraternal and comradely love, recall the arduous road traversed together by the people and comrades-in-arms of the two countries and again share the joy for the victory at that time. We once again believe this great friendship forged in blood between the people of China and Korea has taken root deep in the minds of our people and that it can surmount any trials in the future.

The Korean people not only won the great victory in the war but also registered great achievements in socialist construction in the postwar period. Under the leadership of the WPK headed by Comrade Kim Il-song, the Korean people rehabilitated the country from the ashes of the war under extremely difficult conditions by displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude and they rapidly eliminated the wound of the war. Thus, they have built their country into a socialist country with modern industry, a developed agriculuture, and a powerful national defense capability.

Comrades who have been to Korea unanimously praise and admire the Korean people's achievements in construction. They also admiringly say the Korean people are industrious, wise, civilized, courteous, highly organized, and principled. In upholding the banner of three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—the Korean people are now carrying out the third seven-year plan and are vigorously struggling to implement the decision made at the 17th Plenary Session of the Sixth Workers Party of Korea.

On the international stage, the DPRK is carrying out its external policies of independence, peace, and friendship and has become one of the important forces defending peace. A series of positive measures Korea has taken in its external relations are greatly significant and have produced good results. We evaluate this favorably.

For North and South Korea to end the unfortunate history of division and to achieve the peaceful reunification of the country are the greatest national desires of all the Korean people and their noble historic duty. Korea's party and Government have made persistent efforts to alleviate tension on the Korean peninsula and to achieve the peaceful reunification of the country. They have advanced a series of reasonable proposals. We are glad a breakthrough was recently achieved in North-South dialogue and that the premiers of the two sides held two rounds of talks. As a greatly significant event in the relations between North and South Korea, this will help end the mutual confrontation and gap between them and will, in the long run, help accelerate progress in the peaceful reunification of Korea. This event has already attracted worldwide attention and has been generally welcomed and praised by the international community.

The party, government, and people of China always resolutely support the Korean people's just cause of achieving the independent, peaceful reunification of the fatherland. We strongly support President Kim Il-song's proposal for founding the Democratic Confederal Republic of Koryo and the just proposals he advanced in his New Year's address for tearing down the barrier between the North and South and for realizing free travel and a total opening up between the North and South.

Korea's reunification is the trend of the times and a historic inevitability. We believe, with the vigorous support of all the world's people who demand justice and who love peace, the Korean people will surely complete the cause of reunifying the fatherland after removing the difficulties in their way.

The people of China and Korea are comrades and friends who are walking, shoulder to shoulder, along the single road of socialism in an effort to seek common ideals. The Chinese-Korean friendship has been sealed in blood. No matter how the international situation may change, the party and government of China will do their best to strengthen and develop constantly the Chinese-Korean relations of friendship and cooperation, thus newly contributing to the happiness of the posterity of our two countries and to peace and stability in Asia and the world in general.

I propose a toast to the great friendship and unity between the people of China and Korea; to the endless development of the relations of friendship and cooperation between China and Korea; to the health and longevity of Comrade President Kim Il-song, the great leader of the Korean people and an intimate friend of the Chinese people; to the health of respected Comrade Secretary Kim Chong-il; to the health of respected cadres of the Korean party and Government; and to the happiness of the Korean and Chinese comrades present on this occasion.

Yon Hyong-muk Addresses CPV Banquet 25 Oct

SK2610105090 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 25 Oct 90

[Speech by Yon Hyong-muk, member of the Political Bureau of the Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee and premier of the DPRK State Administration Council, at a banquet held at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall in Pyongyang on the evening of 25 October arranged by Kim Il-song on the 40th anniversary of the participation of the Chinese People's Volunteers in the Korean front—read by announcer]

[Text] Respected Comrade Li Tieying, close comrades of China, and comrades:

Today we grandly mark the 40th anniversary of the Chinese People's Volunteers' [CPV's] participation in the Korean front with our Chinese comrades, our long-time comrades-in-arms. The Chinese party and Government sent us friendship missions, including a high-level party and government delegation so we can commemorate this day more significantly. For this I, by authority, express our deep gratitude once again in the name of our party and the government of the Republic to the Chinese party and Government at this meeting, which overflows with the warm feelings of Korea-China friendship.

During the stern days when we waged a difficult war for determining the fate of the fatherland against the U.S. imperialists, the fraternal Chinese people organized the CPV with their excellent sons and daughters and dispatched them to the Korean front. The CPV's participation in the Korean front was the unselfish revolutionary aid of the Chinese people to our people and the shining manifestation of the traditional fraternity, comradely fidelity, and noble spirit of internationalism of the Chinese people to our people.

We, who are commemorating the 40th anniversary of the CPV participation in the Korean front, recall with deep emotion the dependable features of the CPV soldiers who fought, sharing life, death, and destiny with our People's Army soldiers, in the burning hills and trenches during the days of the fierce war. The brave CPV fighters rushed to the Korean front under the banner of waging the struggle to resist U.S. aggression and aid Korea to protect our homes and the country. They defended the land of our country, upholding the teaching of their leader and fighting, laying down their noble youth and lives without hesitation, thus demonstrating the noble example of a true internationalist fighter.

Throughout our country, including in its mountains and rivers, dwells the immortal spirit of the CPV fighters who demonstrated unequalled valiance in the battle against the imperialist aggressors. That the brave CPV fighters rushed to the Korean front and fought against the armed invasion by the outside imperialists with our people was a great event marking an immortal chapter in the modern history of Korea-China friendship. The immortal exploits registered by the brave CPV fighters will shine forever like the star of the Friendship Tower, the symbol of the Korea-China friendship, and will be handed down for thousands of generations.

Comrades: The relations between the people of Korea and China are between the true revolutionary comrades-in-arms who shared life, death, joy, and sorrow and who have traversed together the revolutionary road of trials. These are blood relations that have been solidified because the peoples have shared blood for the common cause. Truly, in the course of pioneering the arduous road of the revolution, the people of our two countries have always cherished the comradely friendship and fraternal fidelity and have continuously solidified and developed the friendly relations undisturbed by any trials or difficulties. The great Korea-China friendship with deep-rooted tradition is being further solidified today and is as firm as a rock. It is based on the warm revolutionary friendship, trust, and special intimate relations between the leaders of the two countries.

The visit to China by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song last November and the respected Comrade Jiang Zemin's visit to our country last March were events of historical proportions that have once again demonstrated before the world the firm will of the two parties, countries, and peoples to cement and develop the Korea-China friendship for generations. We are very satisfied that the Korea-China friendship is deepening and developing daily at new heights in the interests of the people of the two countries and according to the demands of the current situation.

Where the people in the two countries of Korea and China jointly fought and defeated the united imperialist forces bent on wiping out the socialist forces, which were growing up after their birth at the end of World War II, by the use of force during the days of the Fatherland Liberation War, today they bear a common duty to defend and develop socialism against the imperialists' antisocialist strategy of peaceful evolution.

Even under the complicated and eventful international situation, the fraternal Chinese people are making great headway in their struggle to build socialism with Chinese characteristics. They are doing this by consolidating their national stability and unity and by deepening reform and openness while maintaining the four cardinal principles under the correct leadership of the CPC with esteemed Comrade Jiang Zemin as its core. Thanks to the Chinese party's and Government's consistent peace-loving foreign policy, China's standing in the international community is rising with each passing day.

The 11th Asian Games held successfully and magnificently in Beijing was another powerful demonstration of the might of socialist China, which is stable, united, growing, and strengthening. The actuality in China proves the socialist path was only correct choice and that the Chinese people identify socialism as their only destiny.

The Korean people sincerely rejoice over the fact that everything is proceeding in the fraternal country of China, their credible neighbor, and are drawing great encouragement from it. We wholeheartedly wish the Chinese people greater success in their struggle to build a powerful, wealthy, democratic, civilized, and modern socialist country by implementing the decisions made at the Sixth Plenary Session of the 13th CPC.

Taking this opportunity, we also extend unqualified support for and firm solidarity with the Chinese party, government, and people who are making efforts to realize their national reunification according to the idea of one state and two systems.

Comrades: Today, our people, who are full of revolutionary pride and self-respect at having celebrated the 45th anniversary of the WPK's founding and a great festival for unity and reunification, are tirelessly struggling to give full play to the superiority of our own unique style of socialism and to hasten national reunification by firmly uniting around the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and our party. Even today, as in the past, the fraternal Chinese people actively support and encourage our people's cause of socialist construction and the cause of reunification. For this we offer our warm gratitude to the Central Committee of the CPC, the PRC Government, and the Chinese people.

A struggle to end the tragic national division and realize national reunification is fiercely surging ahead among all the Korean people in the North and South. Splittists within and without can never break our people's high spirit of independence and strong desire for reunification, no matter what scheme they may employ.

The United States should not pursue its policy of fabricating two Koreas, which runs counter to the trends of the times, and should respond to our proposal for negotiations designed to ease tension and ensure peace in Korea. The people in authority in South Korea should give up their splittist and confrontational conception and sincerely come to dialogue with us with a view toward achieving reunification.

Our people will achieve national reunification without fail with a united strength by peaceful means in which neither side conquers the other side and through the method of a confederal system based on one state, one nation, two systems, and two governments.

To consolidate and develop the traditional friendship and unity between the two peoples of Korea and China even further is a credible guarantee for ensuring peace and prosperity in Asia. Our people who treasure the Korean-Chinese friendship will make every possible effort to cement and develop it and will always fight hand in hand with the fraternal Chinese people on the one lane road leading toward the victory of the socialist cause.

In concluding my speech, I propose, on this meaningful occasion of meeting the Chinese comrades-in-arms, a toast to the immortal militant friendship and unity between the Korean and Chinese people, to the long life and good health of esteemed Comrades Deng Xiaoping, Jiang Zemin, Yang Shangkun, and Li Peng; to the long life and good health of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song; and to the good health of esteemed Cormade Li Tieying, Chinese comrades, and the many comrades here.

Li Tieying Arranges Banquet, Yi Chong-ok Attends

SK2710101790 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0959 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 27 (KCNA)—Li Tieying, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee [CC] of the Communist Party of China, state councillor and minister in charge of the State Education Commission, who is leading the Chinese party and government delegation participating in the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the entry of the Chinese People's Volunteers (CPV) into the Korean War, arranged a banquet at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall today.

Present at the banquet on invitation was the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

President Kim Il-song appeared in the banquet hall amid the warm applause of the participants.

Invited to the banquet were O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the C.C., the WPK and minister of People's Armed Forces; Yi Chong-ok, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C., the WPK and vice-president; Yon Hyong-muk, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C., the WPK and premier of the Administration Council; and other party and government cadres.

On hand were the heads of the party and government delegation and other delegations of China, and other Chinese guests, officials of the Chinese Embassy here, the CPV member of the Korean-Chinese side to the Military Armistice Commission and the chief of the CPV liaison office.

Li Tieying and Yi Chong-ok made speeches at the banquet.

The banquet took place in an atmosphere overflowing with feelings of militant friendship and fraternity.

Li Tieying Addresses Group

SK2710111690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1047 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 27 (KCNA)—Li Tieying, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, state councillor and minister in charge of the State Education Commission, who is leading the Chinese party and Government delegation to the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the entry of the Chinese People's Volunteers [CPV] into the Korean war arranged a banquet at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall today and made a speech.

Noting that Comrade President Kim Il-song, busy as he was with state affairs, arranged a grand banquet on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the CPV's entry into the Korean war, received the Chinese delegations and had a very warm and friendly conversation with them, the speaker said: This will always be remembered.

The current visit to Korea, he noted, made all of us keenly feel the profound feelings of friendship deeply cherished by the Korean people for the Chinese people.

During our visit we could see at first hand the achievements gained by the Korean people in socialist construction, which gave us a big inspiration, he said.

We were struck with admiration at the revolutionary spirit of the Korean people who are courageously marching forward, not fearful of difficulties, he added.

He wished the Korean people under the leadership of the Workers' Party and the government of Korea headed by Comrade President Kim Il-song new success in socialist construction and the accomplishment of the far-reaching cause of the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

The friendship between the two countries was established in the protracted common struggle and withstood grim tests of history and it has a great vitality, he said, adding:

No matter how the international situation may change, the Sino-Korean friendship will be everlasting and will shine long through all ages.

Yi Chong-ok Addresses Gathering

SK2710111090 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1042 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 27 (KCNA)—Vice-president Yi Chong-ok of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea made a speech at the banquet arranged by Li Tieying who is heading the Chinese party and Government delegation to the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of the entry of the Chinese People's Volunteers [CPV] into the Korean war at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall Saturday.

The speaker said celebrating the 40th anniversary of the CPV's entry into the Korean war together with comrades of China we keenly felt once again that no force on earth could separate the peoples of the DPRK and China who are closely united as true comrades-in-arms and class brothers, sharing life and death for a long period.

Our people, he noted, deem it a great honor and greatest pride that the traditional relations of friendship between the DPRK and China are steadily efflorescing and developing under the particular care and solicitude of the party and state leaders of the two countries.

Advancing under the uplifted banner of socialism is the unshakable will of our two parties, two governments and two peoples and supporting and cooperating with each other on this road is a noble trait of the peoples of the DPRK and China, he said, adding:

We wish the fraternal Chinese people under the leadership of the Communist Party of China with respected Comrade Jiang Zemin at the core more brilliant success in their efforts to consolidate the stability and unity of the country and build socialism with Chinese characteristics.

No matter which way the wind may blow, our people will always fight in close unity with the fraternal Chinese people on the road toward the victory of the cause of socialism.

Wu Xueqian Addresses Reception in Beijing

SK2710132890 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1300 GMT 25 Oct 90

[Text] On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the entry of the Chinese People's Volunteers [CPV] into the Korean front, the DPRK Embassy in China arranged a reception.

Our country's and China's flags were arranged at the front of the reception site. Invited to the reception were Wu Xueqian, member of the CPC Central Committee Political Bureau and State Council vice premier; Qin Jiwei, member of the CPC Central Committee Political Bureau, state councillor, and defense minister; Qi Huaiyuan, vice foreign minister; Chi Haotian, chief of the general staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army [PLA]; Liu Shuqing, director of the Office of Foreign Affairs; Zhu Shanqing, deputy chief of the International Liaison Department of the CPC Central Committee; Wang Wendong, vice minister of foreign economic relations and trade; (Li Shichuan), deputy political commissar of the Chinese PLA Navy; Lin Hu, deputy commander of the Chinese PLA Air Force; Han Xu, president of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship With Foreign Countries; and other functionaries of relevant sectors, fighters of the then CPV, and the families of the fallen CPV fighters. Chu Chang-chun, DPRK Ambassador to China, and the personnel of the embassy were on hand.

The ambassador of our country and the vice premier of the Chinese State Council spoke at the reception.

Vice Premier Wu Xueqian, in his speech, said the following:

Forty years ago, the Chinese people, upholding the great appeal made by the party Central Committee and President Mao Zedong, namely, the appeal to struggle in resisting U.S. aggression and to aid Korea in protecting its homes and the country, sent the CPV to the Korean front and made it fight shoulder to shoulder with the Korean people. The people of China and Korea waged a three-year bloody struggle and finally defeated the aggressors and achieved the great victory in the Korean Fatherland Liberation War. This victory demonstrated the great might of the people of China and Korea who waged a united struggle and contributed mightily in defending peace in Asia and the world.

He noted how kindly the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and the government and people of Korea looked after and cared for the CPV during its stay in Korea. He said that the Chinese people will never forget these deep feelings of blood relations with the Korean people. He stressed that as the comrades-in-arms of the two countries gather together today and recall the arduous struggle they fought together, they deeply feel once again that the militant friendship, cemented in blood between the two countries and two peoples of China and Korea, is the most valuable.

He said that the Chinese people are pleased to see the fraternal Korean people achieving great success in socialist construction for the 37 years since the end of the war under the leadership of the WPK and President Kim Il-song, demonstrating the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and arduous struggle and overcoming many difficulties. He said that he wholeheartedly wished the fraternal Korean people new and greater success.

He said that the Chinese people are deeply interested in the Korean people's cause of reunification of the fatherland and that the Korean Party and Government have made continuous efforts for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country since the division of Korea and have made many reasonable proposals and assertions for it.

In touching on the recent North-South High-Level Talks of Korea, he said that this conforms with the aspirations of the entire Korean people and expressed his hope that with the success of the North-South dialogue of Korea an advantageous condition will be provided for the alleviation of tensions on the Korean peninsula and for the realization of the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

He said that the Chinese Party, Government, and people will, as they did in the past, continue to resolutely support the Korean people's reunification cause. He said that he firmly believes that the peaceful reunification of the Korean peninsula will be realized without fail.

He noted that the two parties, two countries, and two peoples of China and Korea have a particularly deep and warm friendship. Stressing that this friendship has been deepened by the leaders of the two countries themselves and cemented in the blood of the people of the two countries, he said that further strengthening this friendship in today's situation is of great significance in promoting the socialist construction of China and Korea and in defending peace in Asia and the world. He expressed his firm conviction that with the joint efforts of the two sides, the great Chinese-Korean friendship will develop continuously without fail.

The participants in the reception toasted the indestructible militant friendship and unity cemented in blood between the peoples and armies of Korea and China, the long life and good health of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, the long life and good health of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, and the long life and good health of the respected Comrade Deng Xiaoping, Comrade Jiang Zemin, Comrade Yang Shangkun, and Comrade Li Peng.

The reception proceeded from the beginning to the end in an atmosphere of friendship and unity.

Official Urges Japan To Open Talks on Ties

OW2710125590 Tokyo KYODO in English 1240 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Beijing, Oct. 27 KYODO—North Korean Ambassador to China Chu Chang-chun urged Japan on Saturday to open talks soon with Pyongyang in a move toward establishing diplomatic ties. A Japan-North Korea joint declaration had urged the two countries to open official talks on normalizing ties, but Chu said even "preliminary talks have not been held yet."

"We are fully prepared to have the talks between the governments," said Chu, speaking at a press conference with Japanese reporters in Beijing. He said, "we are just waiting for the Japanese reply," adding "the Japanese side should show its full sincerity in fulfilling the joint declaration."

Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party, the largest opposition group, the Japan Socialist Party, and North Korea's ruling Korean Workers' Party issued the joint declaration in Pyongyang on September 28, urging early establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries.

The declaration said, "the three parties agreed to strongly recommend the start of intergovernmental negotiations for the realization of the establishment of diplomatic relations and the solution of all the outstanding problems," in November 1990. It also said, "the three parties consider that...full compensation should be made by the Japanese Government for the past 36-year-long colonial rule and the losses inflicted upon the North Korean people in the ensuing 45 years."

Chu said, "U.S. and South Korean authorities are just putting pressure on Japan in some way in order to check the establishment of state relations between the two countries." "Previously the Japanese Government expressed the position that without any precondition they would like to normalize relations between (North) Korea and Japan. We hope the Japanese Government keeps this position independently," he said.

Commenting on a Japanese bill that would allow troops to be sent abroad to assist in international peacekeeping activities, Chu said Japan should have learned serious lessons from World War II. "From this point of view, the Japanese people have a constitution that says it would not send any forces abroad," Chu said. "Considering the feelings of the Japanese people and also the feelings of the Asian people, including Koreans, Japan should be very serious if it considers sending its troops abroad."

The Japanese Government has proposed the sending abroad of noncombat troops, aircraft and ships under the U.N. Peace Cooperation Bill which is currently under debate in the Japanese legislature, the national Diet.

Chu disapproved the rapprochement between the Soviet Union and South Korea, and between China and South Korea. Chu said if Moscow follows what he described as a splittist policy, it will not exercise the right of veto for the entry of South Korea into the United Nations. He also noted that China has pledged to North Korea it will not enter into diplomatic relations with South Korea.

Chu also said North Korea and the United States have held 12 rounds of diplomatic contacts in Beijing since the end of 1988.

Kim Il-song Greets Czechoslovakia's Havel

SK2710103990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1025 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 27 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea Friday sent a message of greetings to Vaclav Havel, president of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, on the occasion of the 72nd anniversary of the formation of the independent state of Czechoslovakia.

The message expressed the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the two countries will continue to develop.

O Chin-u Greets Counterpart

SK2710055690 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0422 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 27 (KCNA)—Vice Marshal of the Korean People's Army O Chin-u, minister of people's Armed Forces, sent a message of greetings to Lubos Dobrovsky upon his appointment as minister of national defence of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic [CSFR].

The message expresses the conviction that the friendly relations between the armies of the two countries will continue to develop favourably.

Yon Hyong-muk Greets Counterpart

SK2510111390 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1036 GMT 25 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 25 (KCNA)—Premier Yon Hyong-muk of the Administration Council sent a message of condolence to Marian Calfa, premier of the CSFR. Upon hearing the unhappy news that many casualties were caused by an explosion at a mine in Ostrava Karvina coal field in the CSFR, the Korean premier in the message expresses deep condolences to him and the bereaved families of the victims.

Officials Attend UNDP Representative's Party

SK2510053490 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0442 GMT 25 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 25 (KCNA)—Henning Karcher, resident representative of the United Nations Development Program [UNDP] here, gave a party at the UNDP mission Wednesday evening on the day of the United Nations.

Invited there were chairman of the Education Commission Choe Ki-yong, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Choe Su-hon, Director of the General Bureau of Diplomatic Corps Affairs Han Pong-ku, Director of the General Bureau of State Tourism Guidance Chon Ki-kap, and other officials concerned.

Members of special and affiliated organizations of the United Nations were also present on invitation.

Speeches were exchanged there.

Kim Il-song's Visit to Kangson Commemorated

SK2510131190 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 1100 GMT 7 Oct 90

[Excerpt] To commemorate the 45th anniversary of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's visit to the working class of Kangson via Mangyondae when he triumphantly returned to the fatherland, a commemorative gathering of the working people of Pyongyang was held on the afternoon of 7 October in front of the tributary poetry monument at Mangyongdae's forked road.

A portrait of the great leader of our party and people Comrade Kim Il-song was respectfully placed at the front of the gathering site. Hung at the site were the slogans: Long live the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song! and Long live the glorious Workers Party of Korea [WPK]! Also hung at the site were slogans reading: Let us inherit and consummate the chuche revolutionary cause generation after generation!; Let us inherit and develop the shining revolutionary tradition of our party!; With the spirit of Kangson and with the spirit of Chollima, let us bring about new upsurges in the socialist construction!; and Under the leadership of the party let us move forward in the general march for new victories in the nineties!

Comrade Pak Song-chol, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and vice president; Comrade Kang Hui-won, alternate member of WPK Central Committee Political Bureau and vice premier of the State Administration Council; Comrade Kim Chung-nin, secretary of the WPK Central Committee; Won Tong-ku, chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea [GFTUK]; Pak Su-tong, chairman of the Central Committee of the Union of Agricultural Working People of Korea; and warriors of the anti-Japanese revolution and functionaries concerned were present at the gathering along with the city's working people.

The gathering began with the chorus of the "Song of Marshal Kim Il-song."

Won Tong-ku, chairman of the GFTUK Central Committee, spoke at the gathering. [passage omitted]

Decree Confers Model Machine Plant Honor Prize

SK2510131590 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2100 GMT 19 Oct 90

[DPRK Central People's Committee [CPC] decree on conferring exemplary units with the 26 model machine plant honor prize]

[Text] The DPRK CPC confers to the following units a number 26 model machine plant honor prize for overfulfilling the people's economic plan assigned to them and upholding the party's leadership, by vigorously conducting the loyal movement of creating a model machine unit learning based on the example of the number 26 lathe unit, efficiently managing the machine facilities, and introducing elaborate and standardized enterprise management:

26 March plant; Unung handicraft plant; the car station where Comrade Choe Yong-su works.

[Signed] Kim Il-song, president of the DPRK
[Dated] 6 October 1990, Pyongyang

Chuche Ideology Praised As Source of Strength

SK2610102990 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1012 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Pyongyang October 26 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN Thursday carries a signed article entitled "Chuche Idea Is Great Idea Which Inspires our People with Invincible Strength and High Dignity".

It says:

The chuche idea is the ideological source which gives inexhaustible might and high degree of dignity and honour to our people and makes them fully display national wisdom and stamina.

Dear Comrade Kim Chong-il said:

"We should regard it as the supreme honour and happiness to have the great chuche idea as the ideological basis of socialism and firmly arm ourselves with it and thoroughly defend and carry it through."

All the honour and happiness of our people are associated with the chuche idea.

The might and dignity our people have by carrying on the revolution under the banner of the chuche idea lie, above all, in firmly holding their destinies in their hands.

The chuche idea inspires our people with the spirit of independence that they are the masters of their destinies and they have the strength of hewing out their destinies. By having the chuche idea, the spirit of independence, as world outlook, our people have become the independent and creative people who have liberated themselves from the fetters of old ideas including flunkeyism and dogmatism and shape their destinies with their own thought and practice.

The leader, the party and the masses are united single-heartedly on the basis of the chuche idea and the whole of society forms a solid and vital socio-political organism. This is the basic source of the invincibility of our revolution.

The might and dignity our people have by carrying on the revolution under the banner of the chuche idea lie in building the most superior socialism suitable to the essential nature of social beings and socialist ideal and glorify it on this land.

Our socialism fully provides all the members of society with genuine independent position in all sectors of political, economic and cultural life in conformity with the essential demand of the people as independent, creative and conscious social beings and helps them step up the revolution and construction with communist ideological consciousness and high creative ability.

Socialism which is most stable in politics in the world and which is full of life is our socialism, the embodiment of the chuche idea. Our socialism is making convincing progress without slightest vacillation, overcoming all the imperialists' anti-socialist moves, because it is based on the great chuche idea.

The might and dignity our people have by carrying on the revolution under the banner of the chuche idea lie in having powerful revolutionary weapon.

Our people have the great revolutionary party of chuche as they are advancing under the banner of the chuche idea.

It is the perfect principle for our party to thoroughly embody the chuche idea in all fields of party building and activities.

It is thanks to the leadership of our party that our people are rallied firm behind the leader to form a strong driving force of the revolution and are accelerating the revolution and construction with steadfast revolutionary spirit and extraordinary creative power.

We will energetically advance and fight, holding high the banner of the chuche idea, and bring earlier the victory of the cause of chuche and glorify the dignity and honour of the invincible independent people.

South Korea

Kim Il-song 'Changes Policy' After PRC Visit

SK2710002690 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 27 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] Upon returning from a secret visit to China and meeting with Chinese leaders last September, President Kim Il-song of North Korea presided over a meeting of the Workers' Party cadres on 17 September at a resort on Mt Myohyang and finalized the so-called new policy on easing tensions between the North and South, and on normalizing relations with Japan, according to the KYODO News Agency, which quoted a source well-versed in North Korean affairs.

According to this source, Kim has formulated a new policy in the meeting of party cadres on Mt Myohyang, deciding to ease tensions and promote expanded exchanges with South Korea; hold talks with Japan for the purpose of normalizing relations; and to maintain, for the time being, a highhanded attitude toward the United States by adhering to the lines that North Korea has continued up until now.

Kim, who is reported to have said in the meeting of the party cadres that "at any rate, I have no choice but to meet with President No Tae-u" in reference to relations between the North and South, said that "I hope that the talks between the prime ministers will be successful, and will lead to a North-South summit meeting."

Kim said this, according to the source, when he met with Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun on 20 October in Pyongyang, apparently according to the new policy he had finalized at a meeting of the party cadres.

Prior to this, Kim, taking up an invitation from China, visited Shenyang in mid-September and met with Chinese leaders, including China's top leader Deng Xiaoping and CPC General Secretary Jiang Zemin. He is reported to have discussed with the Chinese leaders the rapidly changing situation around the Korean Peninsula, including relations between South Korea and the Soviet Union and relations between South Korea and China.

When Kim told the Chinese leaders in these meetings that Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze had informed him of a Soviet decision to establish diplomatic relations with South Korea during his visit to Pyongyang in early September, Deng Xiaoping, seizing the opportunity, urged Kim to understand the Chinese plan to open trade offices with South Korea, thereby strongly hinting at a policy aimed at normalizing relations with South Korea. Deng, according to this source, told Kim: "Before long, relations with South Korea will be normalized."

Seoul Plans Simultaneous N-S UN Admission

SK2710012590 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 26 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] It was learned on 26 October that the ROK Government is examining a plan for North and South Korea to simultaneously enter the United Nations at the nomination of China, a permanent member of the UN Security Council.

Accordingly, the government is planning to appoint a vice minister-level official as chief of the ROK's Trade Representative Office in Beijing, which will open sometime next month, to operate this office as a virtual official post, and to have earnest negotiations with the Chinese authorities.

However, if North Korea persistently rejects the plan for North and South Korea to simultaneously enter the United Nations using China as an intermediary, the government will unilaterally apply for UN membership, thus entering the United Nations ahead of North Korea.

A government official concerned said: "China has not opposed the plan for North and South Korea to simultaneously enter the United Nations. It has not expressed its support for North Korea's plan for North and South Korea to enter the United Nations as a single member, either. In this way, China appears to be in a dilemma." He also said: "Therefore, with this plan [on UN admission at China's nomination], China will be able to resolve the issue of North-South Korean entry into the United Nations without hurting its relations with North Korea. This way, the plan will help South Korea withhold sole admission and will lead North Korea to change its policy of North-South admission as a single member."

This official concerned also said: "North Korea's change of its attitude is a precondition for realizing this plan. However, North Korea must have realized during the 45th UN General Assembly that its plan for admission as a single member failed to win international support." He also said: "In an official contact during the second North-South high-level talks, the Pyongyang authorities said that they have the intention of changing its UN policy. We learned that they are taking pains to find an excuse for doing so."

This official concerned also said that the plan for North and South Korea to simultaneously enter the United Nations with China's nomination is a way for North Korea to save its face and for us to carry out our policy of simultaneous entry into the United Nations.

This official concerned added: "However, if North Korea rejects this realistic proposal, we will apply for UN membership during the current UN General Assembly session, which will close in mid- December, or some time in the first half of next year, at the latest. We firmly believe that China will not veto our application."

If North and South Korea enter the United Nations as separate members, the government will form a North-South consultative council that can serve as a means to extensively discuss and coordinate international affairs with North Korea.

Korea's efforts to enter the United Nations through a third country was on 8 April 1949, when free China [Republic of China], which was then a permanent member of the UN Security Council, presented a resolution recommending Korea's admission into the United Nations. However, Korea could not enter the United Nations because the Soviet Union vetoed it.

Liaison Officials Agree To Meet on UN Entry

SK2710065990 Seoul YONHAP in English 0624 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 27 (YONHAP)—Liaison officers from South and North Korea agreed Saturday to hold a working-level contact on U.N. membership Tuesday, the National Unification Board said.

Meeting in Tongilgak on the North Korean side of the truce village of Panmunjom, the two agreed to meet at 3 P.M. in Peace House on the southern side of the village Tuesday, the Board said.

The South wants simultaneous separate U.N. membership and the North wants to share a single seat.

The issue emerged as one of the most important topics in the two rounds of inter-Korean prime ministers' talks but the two sides have so far failed to narrow their differences.

Maneuverings on UN Entry; PRC Stance Viewed

SK2810021190 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 28 Oct 90 p 2

[From the "News Analysis" column by staff reporter Kim Hye-won: "Korea's Application for UN Entry To Draw Attention—Seoul, Pyongyang Split Over Chinese Stance"]

[Text] Will the Seoul government submit an application for U.N. membership this fall?

As two Koreas have apparently failed to reach agreement on their U.N. membership, the answer now seems to be up to the question if China will veto the application. The Chinese attitude, however, is still far from being clear on the issue, according to government officials. Even after announcing the exchange of trade representatives with consular functions with South Korea, the Chinese repeatedly pledged their continuous friendship with North Korea.

A North Korean official recently said he believes that China will veto Seoul's entry into the world body. Government officials in Seoul, however, feel that China will not be able to stick to their position very long, which is going against the "prevailing international opinion."

"It won't be that easy for China to find plausible grounds or causes for opposing Seoul's U.N. membership when over 70 member states have now openly supported it," an official says.

Beijing officials seem to have not made their position clear to the North Koreans either. This is because the North Koreans still would like to continue discussion on the issue with the South, making it a priority topic for the South-North premiers' talks.

North Koreans apparently feel uneasy about the South's move for U.N. membership. During the second round of inter-Korea premiers' talks in Pyongyang this month, northern officials warned that they would discontinue if the South enters the United Nations by itself.

The possibility that two Koreas will settle the issue by themselves now seems extremely low. They have met twice at Panmunjom since September but have failed to narrow the gap in their positions.

The southern government proposed recently that the South and the North form a consultative body for cooperation at the United Nations after they joint the organization on separate seats. But the proposal, likely the last compromise from the South, seems hardly acceptable to the North at least at the moment.

Southern officials also appear resolute. The Seoul government has made its U.N. admission a top diplomatic goal since last year and exerted all-out efforts to enter the international organization. As a result, some 40 U.N. member states, including neutral Austria and Hungary, openly supported the South's admission during the 44th regular session of the U.N. General Assembly last fall.

The number of supporters increased to 70 this year, including President Bush of the United States, but nobody has yet backed the North Korean idea of sharing a seat. Government officials are much attached to the U.N. admission for several reasons. Despite the possibility of temporary deterioration in inter-Korean relations, U.N. membership itself means a lot to the South Koreans—in more symbolic than practical terms.

The South's U.N. membership implies direct U.N. involvement in the security on the Korean peninsula, which surely will act as a deterrent of war on the peninsula. The membership also is seen as diplomatic triumph of the South over the North as it is possible only when all five standing members of the U.N. Security Council—the United States, the Soviet Union, China, Britain and France—recognize the country.

The officials believe that the South's admission may worsen inter-Korean relations for some time but that North Korea would follow the South soon after to avoid diplomatic isolation.

The North cannot but recognize the South when it wants to join the United Nations, they say, adding that this state will be helpful to maintaining peace on the peninsula and realizing ultimate unification.

"We cannot delay, therefore, joining the United Nations for so long because of the North," says one Foreign Ministry official.

He said the Seoul government position is that it would apply for membership any time when the "conditions are ripe."

The Seoul government is known to have urged Beijing, through direct and indirect contacts, to support its U.N. membership with a view to submitting an application this fall.

Officials also keep in mind that the United States will chair the U.N. Security Council next month. They want to utilize the chance to their maximum benefit.

However, the government may not be able to submit an application this fall if China doesn't give an immediate assurance.

But, as the U.N. Security Council is always open, it can put the application to the council any time, officials say. When the council approves it, the General Assembly can deliberate it at either its special or regular sessions, they say.

DPRK-Japanese Differences on Normalization Cited

SK2710120090 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 27 Oct 90 p 2

[By correspondent Song Hui-yong from Tokyo]

[Text] It was learned on 26 October that there is a difference of opinion between the Japanese Government and North Korea regarding the date and place of holding the initial talks on normalizing diplomatic relations between them. North Korea has again requested the Japanese Government to quickly hold negotiations on this matter beginning next month.

Recently, the Japanese Government had proposed to the North Korean side to hold negotiations on the issue of diplomatic relations after the preliminary talks next month. However, it was learned that North Korea had demanded that both sides hold official talks in Pyongyang and Tokyo alternately without holding the preliminary talks.

Because of the ongoing deliberation of the peace cooperative bill, the coronation ceremony of the Japanese emperor on 12 November, and the upcoming ministerial-level talks with the ROK, the Japanese Government is requesting, through the Beijing Embassy, that preliminary talks be held on 3-4 November and official talks after December in Beijing, where the communication situation is good.

It seems that the Japanese Government is aware of the ROK request to delay the speed of the talks because of its relations with the United States. Therefore, it is considered that the Japanese Government is showing signs of delaying the talks if possible.

North Attempting To Buy East German Weapons

SK2810051090 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 28 Oct 90 p 2

[Report by correspondent Kim Hyon-ho from Berlin]

[Text] It was revealed on 27 October that North Korea attempted to purchase weapons of various types from East Germany when the two Germanies were about to be reunited and that North Korea is still trying to buy these weapons from the reunified German Government.

A high-ranking source of information, who was a special assistant to the East German foreign minister until the German reunification and who is still maintaining relations with the German Foreign Ministry at present, said that North Korea filed an application with the East German government to purchase of various weapons immediately before the German reunification and this application has now been referred to the reunified German government.

It has been revealed that not only North Korea but also Iraq, Cuba, Poland, and India wish to buy previously East Germany-owned weapons. Although the kinds and size of the weapons which North Korea wishes to buy are not precisely known, the source of information said they are "weapons of all types."

This source of information said that "the German Government may not want to sell the weapons to the countries like Cuba in consideration of the U.S. opposition, but North Korea is a different case," thereby not precluding the possibility of the East German weapons being sold to North Korea. The source of information also disclosed that North Korea and East Germany signed four secret agreements between them, one of which was an agreement for military purposes, including the supply of MIG-21 fighter engines.

According to the statistics of Britain's Strategic Research Institute, the major weapons owned by East Germany at the time of German reunification were 2,850 tanks, 3,750 armored vehicles, 270 surface-to-air missiles, and 270 MiG fighters, and these weapons are the most modern weapons owned by any of the Warsaw Pact countries.

Kang's Conduct With Kim Il-song Criticized

SK2510115590 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 23 Oct 90 p 15

[Article by Chong Il-hwa, HANGUK ILBO's North Korean Department chief, from the "North-South Corridor" column: "Regret About 'Your Excellency President'—How Can We Beg for 'Recognition of Our Existence' Without 'Liquidating the Past'"]

[Text] The first and second North-South High-Level (premiers') Talks were respectively held in Seoul and Pyongyang. A storm filled with expectations and dismay has passed.

South Korea will again receive the North Korean delegation in Seoul on 11 December, thus attracting the attention of the people. The North and South respectively described how successful the first talks in Seoul on 4 September were by saying that "the fact that the prime ministers of the North and South even met makes it a success." They also described how successful the second premiers' talks in Pyongyang in 16 October were by saying that they "could understand each other."

Our people accepted what they had said. However, we must reexamine our position with the third talks on the horizon. We must more correctly realize who Kim Il-song is to us Koreans and what the North-South premiers' talks will be able to resolve.

The appearance of Kim Il-song with his a little husky voice, which were carried on national television networks in a golden hour on the night of 18 October embarrassed many of our people. He was the supreme commander who perpetrated the 25 June southward invasion. Also, people were harshly punished for simply talking about him. Nevertheless, it is said that times have changed.

Without knowing how times have changed or whether or not times must change, people saw the appearance of "Your Excellency President" on national television networks.

Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun has said that because Kim Il-song first called him Your Excellency, he—in confusion—called Kim Il-song Your Excellency President. The explanation by an official at the highest-level of the administration that he confusedly did this is not understandable. Moreover, he should not try to undermine the significance of the fact that he called Kim Il-song Your Excellency because his lengthy conversation with Kim Il-song has already been broadcasted on television on several occasions. This was an enormous loss on the part of the South Korean side.

However, on his return to Seoul, Prime Minister Kang said, "We could deeply understand each other." This truly foolish statement is all he could say about the talks.

The North and the South had a bloody war and have not had dialogue to speak of. However, this is not because the two did not know or understand each other. Our legal system defines Kim Il-song as an enemy, and 45 million South Korean people abide by this system. If the fact that the North and South "could understand each other" is the only result of the meeting with "Your Excellency President," this is really insufficient.

The major proposals that Prime Minister Kang advanced during the first and second high-level talks are the recognition of South Korea's existence and North-South summit talks. In a sense, they are senseless proposals.

The United Nations recognized the ROK as the sole legitimate government and called North Korea an aggressor. Also, the world criticizes North Korea's dictatorial rule. Under these circumstances, it is really inappropriate for the ROK to ask North Korea to recognize its existence.

In dealing with the North-South issue, it is wrong to think that if we continue talks by currying favor with North Korea at any cost, such talks will be beneficial.

People tend to think that German unification came as a result of East-West German dialogue.

However, West Germany could merge with East Germany not because the West German chancellor eloquently persuaded the East German prime minister or because, as a result of dialogue, they could deeply understand each other.

German unification came as a result of the collapse of East Germany's communist system, the Soviet Union's nonintervention, and absorption by the powerful democratic system in East Germany. Could North and South Korea not understand each other because they could not meet each other? North and South Korea have met on thousands of occasions through such official channels as Military Armistice Commission [MAC] meetings.

The North's propaganda tactics and unreasonable charges which we have witnessed or heard during the MAC meetings, North-South Coordinating Committee meetings, and other occasions have not undergone a meaningful change in the two rounds of North-South premiers' talks.

We do not say that the North-South High-Level (premiers') Talks will bring about no results. The talks will and must.

However, what is important is the fact that, at the very least, South Korea, which gave the lives of 1.2 million people to defend the free democratic system during the 25 June war, cannot thoughtlessly beg North Korea's communist dictatorial system to recognize our system and to hold summit talks with us.

The nineteenth of October, when Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun returned to Seoul after concluding the second North-South High-Level Talks, happens to be the 40th anniversary of the occupation of Pyongyang by the 12th Regiment of the ROK First Division during the 25 June war. Approximately 50 officers, including the then commander of the 12th Regiment (Kim Chom-kon), battalion commanders, and platoon leaders, held a commemorative meeting at the Seoul Club at the foot of Namsan.

A company commander said that when he, with his fully-organized 140-man company, occupied Pyongyang after advancing northward, only a few score of his men were alive. He also said: "The North still propagandizes that the war was a war for justice. However, the South says that the past is past. I have no comment".

In the third talks, in Seoul, South Korea must bring about results that may justify the enormous change which led Prime Minister Kang Yong-hun to call Kim Il-song "Your Excellency President."

Ground Broken for 'Freedom Road' to Panmunjom

SK2810033790 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 28 Oct 90 p 8

[Text] The construction of a 29 kilometer stretch, the first-phase of the planned "Freedom Road" started yesterday in a ground-breaking ceremony.

The first-phase route of the "Freedom Road" runs from Haengju Grand Bridge to Mt. Odu. "Freedom Road" will finally run westward from Seoul to Freedom Bridge at Panmunjom, the truce village that separates South and North Korea.

The 46.6 kilometer "Freedom Road" is being built because of the creation of "Unification Garden" and the construction of a new satellite city in Ilsan, northwest of Seoul, ministry officials said.

Initially, the road was designed to cope with the growing traffic in the western part of metropolitan Seoul, caused by the two projects, but will also serve as a vehicle to prevent future flood disasters, the officials said.

Following the collapse of the Han River embankment last month, the 10 lane "Freedom Road" has been redesigned to function as an embankment.

The construction of the road was originally scheduled to start next month but the schedule was advanced in the wake of the flood disaster.

The first-stage construction will be undertaken by the state-run Korea Land Development Corporation, assisted by military forces, with its completion date set for August 1992.

A ministry spokesman said the first phase of the "Freedom Road" will cost 164.4 billion won (about U.S. $230 million) in construction and the second phase, running 17.6 kilometers between Mt. Odu and Freedom Bridge, will cost 83.6 billion won."

President No Tae-u told the ground-breaking ceremony that the "Freedom Road" will become a road of national reunification and said the recent inter-Korean premiers' talks and sports and cultural exchanges signify changes in Seoul-Pyongyang relations. About 1,000 persons including Construction Minister Yi Sang-hui were present at the ceremony.

He said the Ilsan satellite city and reunification garden, both now under construction, will be the focal point in promoting inter-Korean cooperation and exchanges.

The government is creating an outdoor recreation area on the side of Mt. Odu North of Seoul near the demilitarized zone as a symbol of the Korean people's aspiration for reunification and reconciliation.

A satellite town, to be built at Ilsan, 20 kilometers northwest of Seoul, is also designed to become a symbol of peace and national reunification.

No Tae-u Speaks at Ceremony

SK2810035190 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 28 Oct 90 p 2

[Text] President No Tae-u yesterday termed the two prime ministers' talks and cultural and sports exchanges with North Korea as the "beginning of changes" in inter-Korean relations.

In a speech at a ground-breaking ceremony for the construction of a road in Koyang, Kyonggi-do, he said. "This Chayu-ro (Freedom Road), which will link the South to (the North's) Kaesong and Pyongyang through Panmunjom will become a grand path to reunification."

"I am convinced that the day will come in the foreseeable future when the road is crowded with traffic bound for Pyongyang," he said. "The recent high-level talks, soccer games and cultural exchanges mean a beginning in changes in South-North relations."

The Tongil (reunification) Hill and the new town of Ilsan which are now under construction will serve as a base for further cooperation and exchanges with the North and Chayu-ro will be a main channel for them, No stated.

The ceremony was attended by National Unification Minister Hong Song-chol, Construction Minister Yi Sang-hui and Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku, other government officials and 400 odd residents.

Article Reviews Result of IPU Meeting

SK2410081990 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 23 Oct 90 P 3

[Article by reporter Yi Yong-chu in Punta del Este, Uruguay]

[Text] The 84th general meeting of the Inter-Parliamentary Union [IPU], which was held in Punta del Este, Uruguay, which began on 15 October, ended its 6-day session on 20 October after deciding to hold the 85th IPU general meeting next spring in Pyongyang. North Korea had originally hoped to host the 86th meeting in Pyongyang next autumn. However, as Chile had also expressed the hope of hosting that meeting, North Korea withdrew its request to avoid competition. North Korea was the only country which wished to host the 85th meeting since Spain withdrew its request to host it.

In connection with North Korea's hosting of the 85th general meeting, the "12 plus" conference composed of 12 European countries, including Britain, announced on 18 October that if the 85th IPU general meeting is to be held in Pyongyang it will propose that delegates from all participating countries, including the ROK, be allowed to enter through Panmunjom. We are most concerned about North Korea's reaction to this. Our country successfully hosted the IPU meeting in Seoul in 1987.

At the current 84th IPU general meeting, delegates from various countries made speeches and held discussions on the three agenda items— the political, economic, and social situation of the world, liquidating colonial legacies, and eradicating illiteracy. Our delegates, namely lawmakers Pak Chong-su, Choe Un-chi, and Chong Chae-mun, made keynote speeches on the three agenda items. In their keynote speeches, they presented solutions to international disputes based on the principle of peaceful coexistence and international cooperation and won favorable responses from foreign delegates.

A particularly valuable outcome of the current session is the fact that the North and South delegations agreed to exchange mutual visits of parliamentarians. Another fact which draws our attention is that our delegates openly provided assistance to the North Korean delegates' efforts to host the 85th IPU general meeting in Pyongyang next spring. In fact, mutual visits between North and South parliamentarians, when realized, will surely contribute to improving relations, in that exchanges of politicians between the North and the South can be evaluated as being of greater significance than the exchanges in the sports and cultural fields which the two sides have had thus far.

At a luncheon meeting on 16 October delegates of the two sides agreed to make efforts for the realization at the earliest possible date of mutual visits between North-South parliamentarians, sharing the view that the mutual visits would be conducive to creating a favorable atmosphere for North-South dialogue. At the meeting, lawmaker Pak Chong-su, head of our delegation, invited delegates of the North side to visit Seoul this year. On the other hand, the North side promised that upon receiving an official letter from the South side it will send an official invitation.

Accordingly, mutual visits between parliamentarians are likely to be realized based on the invitation between the IPU delegations of the two sides. Since our delegation has already invited the North side delegation to visit Seoul, our position is that we are ready to receive a visit by North Korean parliamentarians at any time.

On the other hand, it has been learned that after returning from the IPU meeting our delegation will consult with the government authorities on detailed matters related to inviting North Korean parliamentarians to visit Seoul.

The North Korean delegation, at first, assumed a reluctant attitude toward our side's invitation to the luncheon meeting. It appeared to be compelled to respond to our side's active proposal for realizing mutual visits of parliamentarians between the North and the South. At the meeting delegates of the North side stressed again the so-called prerequisite to North-South dialogue, including the suspension of the "Team Spirit" exercise and the release of Yim Su-kyong.

The North side's unprecedented efforts to host the IPU can be interpreted as an expression of North Korea's efforts to keep step with the irresistible world trend of openness, willingly or unwillingly. Accepting such moves on the part of the North side's delegation with a positive and forward-looking attitude our delegation showed its willingness to actively cooperate with the North side's efforts to host the next IPU meeting in Pyongyang. As an example, in various sessions of the IPU meeting our delegates made speeches supporting the North side delegation's efforts to host the meeting.

At an unofficial meeting of the Asian-Pacific group of the IPU on 17 October lawmaker Pak Chong-su, head of our side's delegation, said, "If the North side's delegation does not present any prerequisite, such as the formation of North-South single delegation to the IPU, we will not oppose holding the next IPU meeting in Pyongyang. Rather, we want the next IPU meeting to be held in Pyongyang."

Additionally, on the same day, at a luncheon meeting with delegates from eight East European countries, including the Soviet Union, with which our country has recently established diplomatic relations, the head of our side's delegation asked support for our government's policy of exchange and cooperation with North Korea and urged them to offer cooperation to the North side delegation's efforts to host the next IPU meeting in Pyongyang.

Deeply moved by our active and sincere attitude toward North Korea, foreign delegations, including those from East European countries, promised all possible cooperation.

It seemed that such an attitude on the part of our delegation originated in the belief that hosting the IPU meeting in Pyongyang would serve to further accelerate openness in North Korea and that our side's active support for and cooperation with the North side's delegation gave us a chance to demonstrate initiative in North-South relations.

Such a dignified attitude on our part was different from what we have witnessed in the IPU meetings in the past and had a great effect among foreign delegates.

In addition, during the current IPU meeting our delegation held meetings with the Soviet and Polish delegations and agreed to form a parliamentary friendship society. At the same time, at the current IPU meeting our country has been elected as the chairman country of the Asian-Pacific Group of the IPU.

Music Festival, Orchestra Performance Proposed

SK2610130790 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 24 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] It is expected that if politics are put aside, a folk music festival for reunification and a North-South joint orchestra performance will be held in Seoul within the year.

On the morning of 24 October, Minister of Culture Yi O-ryong commented on the proposal for a folk music festival and a joint tour orchestra performance, which Yun I-sang put forward in Pyongyang in his meeting with Korean reporters, and clarified that "there is no reason for our side to object to it" and that "we have emphasized cultural exchanges without any political flavor on many occasions since early this year."

Noting that our side has constantly stressed the "promotion of exchange" since the exchange of art, our traditional art before the division of the country, is of great significance in recovering national homogeneity, he said that "who has first proposed exchanges is not important, but affording many opportunities to confirm the emotional identity of the nation is momentous."

He stressed that because the culture and art of North Korea are drastically different from those of the South side in character, politics must be ruled out in exchanges. Minister Yi professed that from the standpoint of reciprocity, our side will not conduct propaganda on the superiority of the system. He added that these must be preceded by consultations with the Ministry of National Unification and other government agencies about practicalities, such as the date and procedure of holding of a folk music festival for reunification and the composition of a joint orchestra. Before the closing of a pan-national music festival for reunification on 23 October, Yun I-sang disclosed his proposal for the holding a folk music festival for reunification and the composition and tour schedule of a joint orchestra.

Soviet Union Names First Ambassador to Seoul

SK2910023490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0230 GMT 29 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 29 (YONHAP)—Soviet Ambassador to the Philippines Oleg Sokolov has been designated the first Soviet ambassador to South Korea, a government source said Monday.

The source said Moscow notified Seoul of the decision recently and was expected to request an agreement for Sokolov soon.

The two countries established diplomatic relations Sept. 30. South Korea has designated Kong No-myong, head of its Consular Department in Moscow, as the first ambassador to the Soviet Union and asked for an agreement Oct. 8.

Sokolov is said to be well-versed in U.S. affairs, having served as a minister at the Soviet Embassy in Washington, C.C., under former Ambassador Anatoli Dobrynin. Sokolov also served as director-general for American affairs at the Foreign Ministry. He was appointed ambassador to the Philippines in November 1987.

Economic Talks With Soviet Delegation Postponed

SK2710001090 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 27 Oct 90 p 2

[Text] It was learned on 26 October that the Soviet Union has officially requested that the ROK Government postpone until December or later the second round of the economic cooperation talks with the Soviet Government delegations which were supposed, after a few delays, to be held in Seoul on 10 November.

A high-ranking government official said: The Soviet side has recently informed us of this Soviet position through our consular department in the Soviet Union. The Soviet side did not mention the specific reason for the postponement, but we assume that the Soviet side thought the postponement unavoidable because it is fully occupied with its recent introduction of the radical economic reform.

In the second round of the economic cooperation talks, the ROK and the Soviet Union were expected to determine the scale of the ROK economic cooperation to the Soviet Union, sign the investment guarantee agreement, and negotiate such issues as the signing of the double taxation prevention agreement and the fishing agreement.

Soviet Reform Economist To Visit, Meet Leaders

SK2510032690 Seoul YONHAP in English 0309 GMT 25 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 25 (YONHAP)—Stanislav Shatalin, a member of the Presidential Committee of the Soviet Union, has not postponed his trip to South Korea and will arrive in Seoul Friday as scheduled, his host, the International Trade and Business Institute, said Thursday.

The institute had said Shatalin's trip was postponed indefinitely due to urgent problems in his country, but was informed later that it would be made as scheduled on Oct. 26-Nov. 9, a spokesman said.

Shatalin, a key figure in soviet economic reforms, will attend seminars, deliver speeches on the Soviet economy, and meet with leaders of government and business, the spokesman said.

He will be accompanied by his wife and two Soviet officials.

CSFR Foreign Minister Begins Seoul Visit

LD2510183290 Prague CTK in English 1604 GMT 25 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul Oct 25 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier arrived here today on a four-day visit to the Republic of Korea [ROK].

It is the first visit by Minister Dienstbier to this country since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Czechoslovakia and the ROK last March.

Minister Dienstbier will meet with President No Tae-u and other government officials, and visit some industrial enterprises. An aviation and trade agreement is expected to be signed during the visit.

Jiri Dienstbier's visit to the ROK has been made possible by the new orientation of Czechoslovakia's foreign policy after the November 1989 revolution toppled the communist regime which maintained relations with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea only.

Even though first Czechoslovak-South Korean economic contacts started in 1988, a Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry spokesman warned in December 1988 that "though trade deals may be possible with South Korean firms, they must not be confused with any diplomatic or political opening towards the ROK. Czechoslovakia did not and does not consider establishing diplomatic ties with the ROK."

A mere fifteen months later, on March 22, 1990, the establishment of diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level was announced. Two months earlier, the partner of the Czechoslovak Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Korea Trade Association (Kotra) opened its permanent representation in Prague. In April, South Korea was represented for the first time at the spring international consumer goods trade fair in Brno.

One of the goals of Jiri Dienstbier's visit to South Korea is to discuss the establishment of Czechoslovakia's diplomatic mission in Seoul. The South Korean mission in Prague was inaugurated last summer.

The establishment of diplomatic relations between Czechoslovakia and the ROK was to a great degree prompted by mutual need for economic cooperation.

Due to the low competitiveness of Czechoslovak products, mutual trade has been marked since the very beginning with Korea's surplus. In 1989, Czechoslovak exports were worth 7.3 million dollars against imports amounting to 23 million dollars. The situation in the first eight months of this year was about the same. Czechoslovak exports were worth 7.9 million dollars while imports from South Korea reached 27.5 million dollars.

The effort to level off the balance has motivated the coming first ever participation of the Czechoslovak Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the Seoul International Trade Fair, Sitra 90, from October 30 to November 5. Represented will be 15 Czechoslovak enterprises interested in exporting textile machinery, musical instruments, glassware, costume jewellery, and other consumer goods and food to South Korea and other Southeast Asian countries.

No Presents Medal to Czech

SK2610121190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0920 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul Oct 26 (YONHAP)—Jiri Dienstbier, Czechoslovak deputy prime minister and foreign minister, was given a medal by President No Tae-u for his contribution to friendly relations with Korea on Friday.

Dienstbier Comments on Relations

SK2910061890 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 27 Oct 90 p 2

[Report on an interview with Jiri Dienstbier, Czechoslovak deputy premier and foreign minister, by reporter Yi Chae-ho; date and place not given]

[Text] [Editor's Note] Jiri Dienstbier, the 53-year-old Czeckoslovak deputy premier and foreign minister, came to Korea on 25 October. He is familiar to the Korean people for his role as spokesman for the Citizens' Forum, an opposition force, during the democratic revolution last winter. His personal background is very unique.

Dienstbier, who started as a radio reporter at a Czechoslovak state-run broadcasting station after graduating from the renowned Charles University, was jailed in 1969, shortly after the so-called "Prague Spring," for his involvement in a dissident movement. After this, he had a series of different jobs, ranging from documentary writer to night watchman and boiler man, before becoming Czechoslovak foreign minister after Czechoslovakia was democratized. In a sense, he can be said to be a journalist-turned-minister after the political ban on him was lifted.

He said: "It was due to the severe paradoxes and confrontation imposed by the cold war that Korea and Czechoslovakia have maintained hostile relations over the past 40 years."

[Yi Chae-ho] How do you view the prospects for developing bilateral relations between our two countries?

[Dienstbier] ROK Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung and I have just signed accords on civil aviation and trade and economic cooperation. In addition, I hope that the governments and civilian sectors of the two countries will be able to actively conduct exchanges and cooperation in all areas. In less than 10 months since the democratization began in Czechoslovakia, we have managed to overcome the results of an interruption of over 40 years with enormously high speed.

[Yi] In what areas do you expect our two countries will be able to cooperate? Explain in detail, please. And how do you view the prospects for Korean business firms doing joint ventures with your country's businesses?

[Dienstbier] Joint ventures should be left to the businessmen. The government's main job is to remove the obstacles to exchanges between the two countries. We want to obtain Korea's high-level technology in the communications, textile, and light industries. Meanwhile, the Czechoslovakia has relatively well-developed technology in machinery industry and basic sciences. The cooperation between our two countries should be done in a way that is complementary. Before World War II, Czechoslovakia was the 10th largest industrialized country in the world.

[Yi] What lesson do you think your country has learned from the socialist system that continued for so long? And tell me how you envision the future of your country's development.

[Dienstbier] A democratized country cannot afford to depend on others. Over the past 50 years, our country has advanced along a road of abnormal historical development. It is true that our country has experienced many negative phenomena such as the antipopular rule, a dictatorial way of thinking that obliterates the people's creativity, a sense of resignation, and low morale. Nevertheless, Czechoslovakia has a 150-year history of industrialization and people as individuals have relatively high-level knowledge and technology. For example, Czechoslovakia is free of illiteracy. This will serve our country well and we expect much from this. Of course, we have many problems, because 98 percent of the national economy was privatized at one stroke after the democratization. However, I have trust in our people's high-level knowledge.

[Yi] What is your stand on the admission of the North and South of Korea into the United Nations? Also, how will you maintain and adjust your relations with North Korea after setting up diplomatic relations with the ROK?

[Dienstbier] Just as we have expressed our support for the ROK's stand during the UN General Assembly session, every country is entitled to become a UN member. We will support North Korea's request for a membership if it applies for it. To speak of our relations with North Korea, we plan to conduct economic cooperation with North Korea on a different level, as the socialist market is in the process of collapsing throughout the world. I believe that North Korea, too, will recognize the advantage of an open economy.

Envoy, DLP Official on Friendship With Taiwan

SK1610013190 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 16 Oct 90 p 3

[Text] Newly assigned Republic of China Ambassador Charles Shu-chi Chin yesterday paid a courtesy call on two government party co-chairmen Kim Chong-pil and Pak Tae-chun, in which they accented the unchangeable "friendly" relations between Taiwan and South Korea. He delivered an invitation from President Li Teng-hui to the Democratic Liberal Party leaders to visit Taiwan, according to DLP spokesman Pak Hui-tae.

Ambassador Chin was quoted as saying, "Relations between countries can change in accordance with their interests. However, I believe that our traditional, friendly relations will not be affected by new international developments." Kim Chong-pil said in reply, "An old friend should not be given up to make a new friend." He was ostensibly referring to the recent rapprochement moves between South Korea and mainland China.

Economic Cooperation Meeting With Taiwan Held

SK2010005190 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 20 Oct 90 p 6

[Text] Korea and the Republic of China have agreed in principle to push for the establishment of a banking institution in each other's country. The two countries also shared the view that both will encourage bilateral cooperation between their respective consulting and construction firms.

At the same time, they expressed a common interest in working together to decrease their trade deficits with Japan, which is one of the most serious trade problems confronted by both countries.

These and other agreements came at the 23rd Joint Conference of the Councils for Korean-Chinese/Sino-Korean Economic Cooperation held at Hotel Lotte in Seoul yesterday. The 80-member Korean delegation was headed by Pak Yong-hak, chairman of the Council for Korean-Chinese Economic Cooperation, and the 60-member Chinese delegation was led by Koo Jeffre L.S., chairman of the Council for Sino-Korean Economic Cooperation.

As the two-way trade volume between Korea and the ROC is expanding, the necessity for the setup of a financial institution in their respective countries to back up business activities is becoming greater than ever before, a Ministry of Finance official said. The Korean government is considering allowing some specialized banks, including the Industrial Bank of Korea, to set up an office in Taiwan, the official said. Meanwhile, the government will permit the establishment of a Chinese bank office in Seoul, if asked, based on a reciprocal basis, he said.

At the annual conference, the Korean delegation expressed the hope that the ROC would give favorable consideration to issuing resident visas to Korean businessmen. On the matter, the ROC delegation promised to give favorable consideration to the recommendation based upon the friendly relationship between the two countries.

Noting that Korean firms have considerable interests in the Chinese construction market, the Korean side requested the ROC to allow Korean construction companies more opportunities to participate in the ROC's large public projects under more favorable conditions.

The Chinese side explained the structure of its construction market and promised to provide the necessary information on public projects.

To effectively cope with the rapid changes in world economic environments, such as the integration of the EC (European Community) and German unification, both sides agreed to increase joint ventures and technical and human exchanges among private enterprises in the Asian region.

For a rapid expansion of bilateral trade, both sides have decided to work together to transfer imports from countries with which they run chronic deficits to each other's country, and by supporting the activities of the foreign trade promotion agencies in their respective countries.

Mongolian Economic Delegation To Visit Seoul

SK2510062490 Seoul YONHAP in English 0559 GMT 25 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 25 (YONHAP)—An economic delegation from Mongolia will arrive in Seoul Oct. 30 to promote bilateral trade and other exchanges, the Foreign Ministry said Thursday.

Before leaving on Nov. 9, the 12-member delegation led by Trade Minister Bayar Baatar [name as received] will have talks with Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung and Trade and Industry Minister Pak Pil-su about signing accords on economic, trade, scientific and technological cooperation, culture and investment protection.

The two nations normalized diplomatic ties in March.

Shipping Agreement With Nigeria Takes Effect

SK1210033590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0256 GMT 12 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 12 (YONHAP)—A merchant shipping agreement between South Korea and Nigeria took effect on Oct. 4, when the two nations notified each other of the completion of legal procedures, the Foreign Ministry said Friday.

Foreign Ministers Choe Ho-chung of Korea and Ike Omar Sanda Nwachukwu of Nigeria signed the shipping agreement on Aug. 17, 1989, in Seoul. Under the pact, each nation gives most-favored-nation treatment to ships of the other nation.

Trade Deficit Forecast To Reach $5 Billion

SK2410083590 Seoul YONHAP in English 0823 GMT 24 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 24 (YONHAP)—South Korea will have a 5 billion-U.S.-dollar trade deficit this year because the Persian Gulf crisis has hurt exports and because there were "too many" holidays earlier this month, Trade and Industry Minister Pak Pil-su said on Wednesday.

Speaking at a seminar for business executives, Pak said exports would reach 64 billion dollars by the year's end, compared with a target of 65 billion dollars to 65.6 billion dollars. "During the first nine months of this year, exports grew 3.1 percent, and they have been slow in October due to the many red-letter days (around the Harvest Moon Festival on Oct. 3)," he said.

Pak said the export slow-down showed that Korea had gone about as far as it could relying on low wages as there was a withering of will to work among employees and industry had failed to develop technology and produce new products. The cause of inactive exports can also be found in manpower shortages, a lack of road, rail, port and stevedoring facilities and loosening government control of industry, he said.

He said the government would give top priority to encouraging technology development and improving productivity, stabilizing prices, boosting manpower and building industrial complexes and other facilities. He said imports were likely to be between 69 billion and 70 billion dollars despite price hikes of oil and raw materials as importation of consumer goods was declining.

Trade Situation for Jan-Sep Reported

SK2410091190 Seoul YONHAP in English 0855 GMT 24 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 24 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea's trade deficit was 3.005 billion U.S. dollars in January-September on a customs clearance basis, the Customs Administration said Wednesday. Korea had a trade surplus of 182 million dollars in the same period last year.

In September, there was a 2 million-dollar trade surplus on exports of 6.12 billion dollars, up 11.7 percent from the same month last year, and imports of 6.118 billion dollars, up 23.5 percent, the administration said.

The increases for both imports and exports were the highest this year, and the trade deficit is feared to worsen due to the sharp rise in imports, especially of crude oil. The surge in exports was attributed mainly to footwear, chemical products, electronic goods and cars, while imports were led by oil price hikes and consumer goods.

Imports of oil and energy-related goods rose 221.8 percent in value in September over the same month last year, while those of construction goods soared 121 percent, the Administration said. Exports were 46.67 billion dollars and imports 49.68 billion dollars for the first nine months of the year. In August, Korea had a 309 million-dollar trade deficit.

Korean Planes to Germany To Use Soviet Airspace

SK2710004190 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 27 Oct 90 p 3

[Text] Korean Air [KAL] flights bound for Frankfurt will pass through Soviet airspace from tomorrow and it will cut their flying time by as much as five hours.

At present, KE903, 905 and 915 go to the German hub via Anchorage. It takes 17 hours for KAL to fly the 13,500 km route including the stopover in the Alaskan city. The distance will be cut by 4,500 km when KAL flights use the Siberian route.

The use of the Soviet route was approved by the German flag carrier Lufthansa recently. Lufthansa had opposed KAL's flights to Frankfurt via Soviet airspace, fearing that it might cut into its competitiveness.

Military Conducts Night-Time Patrol in Cities

SK2710003390 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 27 Oct 90 p 3

[Text] Soldiers are conducting patrols in major cities of the nation to help in the war on crime, according to the Defense Ministry yesterday.

A ministry official said military police had stepped up patrols in six major cities including Seoul, Pusan and Taegu help police combat violence and crime since last Saturday.

The MPs under the Capital Garrison Command are conducting nighttime patrols on the streets of Seoul, particularly, those areas where the crime rates are highest.

The command has mobilized about 800 military police under its control for patrols in the metropolitan city.

The official said that the military patrols would be conducted mainly for prevention of crime in the metropolitan city, revealing that the MPs have patrolled in the big cities across the country to protect soldiers and members of the Defense Force outside the units as well as to maintain military discipline.

The military police, he said, made it a rule to check soldiers and those who look like soldiers in their appearance in railroad and subway stations, bus terminals, red-light districts and theaters.

He reasserted that MPs did not and would not check and frisk innocent citizens.

But he said that the military police would apprehend rapists and molesters and turn them over to the police in the form of citizen's arrests if the MPs happened to pass by the scenes of such offenses.

The number of the soldiers mobilized for the patrols is decided by the situation of the regional military police units, he said.

The MPs on the patrols are equipped with helmets, M16 rifles and cartridge belts in strict accordance with the related Army regulations.

The officials added that the Capital Garrison Command controlled a battalion-size military police force estimated at about 600 in number.

Meanwhile, soldiers patrolled in Seoul last February when a chain of fires broke out in the city.

Professors Demand Reform of Intelligence Agencies

SK2710003590 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 27 Oct 90 p 3

[Text] Amid frequent reports on human rights offenses by security agencies, Seoul National University professors yesterday called for reforms in the Defense Security Command [DSC] and the Agency for National Security Planning [NSP].

The DSC has been under fire for its illegal surveillance on dissidents, politicians and student activists and the NSP for its violations of security risks' human rights.

A total of 129 professors associated with a school society for social justice urged President No Tae-u to guarantee in a special declaration no more human rights violations by the security agencies.

Society representatives denounced in a statement that the government has only worked out makeshift measures aimed at calming down public anger, while failing to make thorough reforms in the security agencies.

It is the first statement released by the society since its inauguration in June this year.

The government, the group contends, has failed to take proper actions in its efforts to preserve human rights since the recent disclosure of the illegal surveillance on dissidents and student activists by the Defense Security Command.

"The government has no other alternative but to conduct democratic reforms in the security agencies so as to guarantee the human rights of all citizens, in addition to security risks," they said.

The reform-minded professors also urged ruling and opposition politicians to launch an inspection into the alleged human right offenses by the Defenses Security Command.

Chondaehyop Vows To Free Arrested Chairman

SK2610013390 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 26 Oct 90 p 3

[Text] A prominent student leader who had been sought for five months by law-enforcement authorities was captured by intelligence agents at the Seoul apartment of a friend late Wednesday afternoon.

Agents of the Agency for National Security Planning [NSP] raided the apartment in northern Seoul and arrested Song Kap-sok, 24, president of the National Council of Student Representatives. The NSP investigators also rounded up three other student activists at the apartment—Mun Chong-son, 22, of Seoul Woman's College, Son Chong-kuk, 24, and Chong Myong-chin, 23, both from Chonnam National University.

Song, also head of the Chonnam National University Student Council, was put on the wanted list May 9, the founding anniversary of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], for organizing anti-DLP demonstrations. He had allegedly been staying at the apartment since Oct. 13 when he arrived in Seoul to participate in a rally at Poramae Park, organized to protest the Defense Security Command's surveillance on civilians.

Mun, a ranking student council member at Seoul Woman's College who was living at the apartment alone, let the wanted student leader hide out there. When NSP agents stormed the apartment at 5:40 p.m., Song attempted to escape by jumping from the veranda of the second floor apartment, witnesses said. It was reported that he was injured during the attempt.

The intelligence agency is currently interrogating the arrested students to determine whether they are affiliated with Sanomaeng of the outlawed Socialist Workers League.

Song was elected president of the active student organization in April and has since organized many anti-government rallies and demonstrations. He has frequently showed up at student rallies by breaking through tight police blockades and even called a press conference at Konguk University Oct. 16 to announce a plan to seize a branch office of the military intelligence agency.

Meanwhile, Chondaehyop members said in a press conference held at Hanyang University yesterday that the student body would mount stepped-up struggles to free their arrested chairman. Chondaehyop will organize large-scale rallies across the nation while student leaders will go on hunger strikes.

Military Intelligence Agency To Change Name

SK2410004590 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 24 Oct 90 p 2

[Text] Defense Minister Yi Chong-ku said yesterday his ministry plans to change the name of the Defense Security Command [DSC] which has recently been under fire because of its surveillance of civilians and politicians.

Changing the DSC's name would be part of military efforts to restore honor and rectify the military intelligence organization's wrongdoings, Yi said. But he did not say what the new DSC name would be, adding a special committee on operation and organization of the DSC, soon to be formed, will map out a fresh name.

Offering to meet with reporters, Yi who became defense minister Oct. 8 following the DSC scandal, also said he will strengthen the power and function of the DSC's Internal Inspection Bureau, appoint an Army general as the bureau chief, in a bid to step up the internal probe and check the military intelligence command. So far, a colonel has been chief of the DSC's Internal Inspection Bureau.

Apologizing again for the recent scandal over the DSC's spying on civilians and politicians, Yi vowed to change the organization, function, and mechanism, along with a shakeup of the DSC staff "for the rebirth of the DSC and the military. We cannot dissolve the DSC simply because we hate it; instead, we will have to encourage it to return to its original function and mission, for the sake of the people and the state," Yi said.

Along with a reshuffle of the DSC's organization, re-education will be needed to "modernize the orientation of DSC staff officers," he pointed. With the scaling down of the DSC's apparatus, "persons that have old-fashioned ways of thinking will be removed first," said Yi, adding, however, he cannot tell "by what percentage the DSC's staff and organization will be decreased." Minister Yi also said he will have the DSC commander "report to me all it is doing," hinting that the DSC commander's routine "direct reporting" to the President will no longer be tolerated.

To help clear the military of any irregularities, Yi said the Special Presidential Military Inspection Force will step up its functions "to make it a higher-level apparatus which will check the DSC activities as well." The special inspection force, placed under the wing of the defense minister, inspects military affairs on the special orders of the President. It has actually done little in recent years, and Yi's intention to strengthen its activities are construed as a will to hold a tighter grip on military affairs and military discipline in his capacity as defense minister.

Yi's expression of his firm will to take all means possible to rectify the DSC's wrongdoings came following his Monday testimony before the National Assembly Defense Committee on the results of the ministry's inspection of the DSC scandal. Yi, a close deputy of President No Tae-u and a former Army chief of staff, said; "We know national security is not to be monopolized by the Armed Forces alone. It's something that includes all sectors of society, and I think the DSC will soon return to its original function. And we'd truly like to be devoted to our tasks, such as preparing for the changing security situation around the peninsula," said Yi.

Seoul Subway Union Leader Arrested by NSP

SK2010004590 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 20 Oct 90 p 3

[Text] The Agency for National Security Planning (NSP) arrested a union leader of the Seoul Subway Corp. yesterday on charges of violating the National Security Law. Arrested was Kim Tong-kyun, 28, union leader for the Ulchi-ro 1-ga station of No. 2 subway line.

The NSP alleged in the arrest warrant that he had reported to Sanomaeng (Socialist Workers League) on labor activities at the metropolitan subway line since he was recruited as a member of the league in July. The intelligence organization also said in the writ that Kim was recruited by one of his classmates identified only by his surname Yun. Kim was expelled from Yonsei University Medical when he was a sophomore.

Students Protest Open Teacher Recruitment Test

SK2610013790 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 26 Oct 90 p 3

[Text] About 5,000 students from state-run and private teachers colleges held a surprise but peaceful rally on a downtown Seoul street yesterday morning to protest the Education Ministry's plan to introduce an open recruitment test for teaching positions. Several hundred of the protestors were whisked away but released after brief interrogations, police said.

Protesters occupied the street in front of Pagoda Park on Chongno Boulevard for more than one and half hours, triggering a large traffic jam on downtown streets. Surrounded by riot police armed with truncheons and tear-gas grenades the protesters lay down on the pavement shoulder to shoulder.

Some of them were involved in fierce skirmishes with riot police, but no serious injuries were reported. Police did not use gas to break up the protesters who also shouted anti-government slogans and demanded Education Minister Chong Won-sik step down.

Public and private teachers college students have been at odds since the ministry's plan to scrap favoritism for state-financed students was unveiled. Under an educational law that ruled unconstitutional private school students had to take competitive exams to become teachers.

Government To Designate Television Shareholders

SK2610052090 Seoul YONHAP in English 0501 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 26 (YONHAP)—The government will select the shareholders of a new commercial television station Nov. 3, Information Minister Choe Pyong-yol said Friday. He said 60 companies, organizations and individuals had applied to become shareholders in the station, which is due to go on the air next year.

The government will designate a main shareholder, who will virtually have the right to manage the station, and the other stockholders on the board, but between them they will only be allowed to have up to 30 percent of the shares, Choe said. The company will be forced to donate 20 percent of its ad income to a public fund for broadcasting and culture.

No Stresses Need for Effective Economic Policy

SK2610010990 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 26 Oct 90 p 2

[Text] President No Tae-u instructed economic ministers to swiftly cope with changes in domestic and international economic situations without delaying readjustment of policies.

In a meeting with the economic planners at Chongwadae, No argued, "We lacked efforts to cope with rapidly changing economic situation both at home and abroad in the wake of the Gulf crisis." He stressed the need for timely rewriting of policies to meet the changes.

No's aides said that the President was referring to the government's earlier policy not to raise domestic oil prices within this year disregarding sharp increase in international crude prices. The President also told the minister to take appropriate steps to help prevent labor disputes next year, noting that one of the most important tasks of the nation's economy is to maintain peaceful relationship between labor and management.

No reiterated that speculative investment in real estate should be eliminated at any cost. "To arrest the speculation is a prime precondition for social and economic stability," he emphasized. In particular, No underlined that without a strong economic base, it will be impossible for the nation to achieve democratic reforms, push forward its northern policy and realize unification.

Participants in the meeting were Deputy Premier-Economic Planning Minister Yi Sung-yun, Finance Minister Chong Yong-ui, Trade-Industry Minister Pak Pil-su, Agriculture-Forestry-Fisheries Minister Cho Kyong-sik, Labor Minister Choe Yong-chol and Energy-Resources Minister Yi Hui-il.

South Joins OECD's Shipbuilding Section

SK2410063990 Seoul YONHAP in English 0532 GMT 24 Oct 90

[Text] Seoul, Oct. 24 (YONHAP)—South Korea is the 17th nation to become a formal member of Working Part Six, the shipbuilding section of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the Trade and Industry Ministry said Wednesday.

Membership took effect on Oct. 17, allowing Korea a say in the multilateral shipbuilding negotiations taking place in Paris and an opportunity to swap extensive information with other members. A ministry official said Korea has new responsibility as the world's second largest exporter of ships, 1.71 billion U.S. dollars worth last year, next only to Japan.

An understanding on export credit for Part Six requires Korea to cancel the two-year deferment period and take advance payment above 20 percent, give loans up to 8.5 years and charge interest at 8 percent. OECD accords also call for gradual reduction of barriers to normal competition and membership payments, the official said.

Burma

Troops Continue To Raid Monasteries in Mandalay

BK2610144490 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Following the issuance of Order 6/90 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, security forces have continued to raid and search monasteries in Mandalay for illegal organizations operating in monasteries and for objects not related to religion. During the raids yesterday morning the security forces found 850 sacks of rice, 220 sacks of mung beans, and 20 sacks of sunflower seeds stored at the Sagu Monastery and the Thandawzeik Monastery and 113 sacks of rice at Myatheintan Monastery. Investigations continue on those connected with the storage of these rice, bean, and sunflower seed sacks.

Security forces continued the raids on monasteries this morning and found 48 blocks of jade and 80 pieces of jade weighing 268.20 viss [one viss equals 1.6 kg] buried in the compound of Mani Myitzu Monastery, Mingun Taik, southwest Mandalay. The owner of the jade, Myo Nyunt, 31, son of U Mya Than of Aung Zeya Ward in Ye-u township was also exposed. It has also been learned that 120 gallons of gasoline illegally stored was found at Aung Thekdi Yadanabon Monstery, Mingun Taik and the owner, Ma Khin Mar Swe, 26, daugther of U Hla Aung of No. 310 Kyaunggyi Street, Deiwin West Ward, has been arrested.

It has been learned that our security forces are continuing their raids and searches of monasteries where Burma Communist Party underground elements and illegal monastic organizations took shelter and operated.

Find Jade, Rubies

BK2710144890 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Following the issuance of Order 6/90 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, security forces have continued to raid and search monasteries in Mandalay for illegal organizations operating in monasteries and for objects not related to religion. During raids in the afternoon on 26 October the security forces found one block of jade weighing 4.2 viss [one viss equals 1.6 kg], cut jade weighing 45 viss, one machine for cutting jade bangles, and one 1,000 kilowatt transformer from Thabye Monastery inside Mingun Taik; 98.5 viss of jade from Thayetpin Monastery; 38 jade bangles, 86 jade beads, 87 jade necklaces, two pieces of jade, five democracy arm bands, Kyat 177,965 in cash, 137 pieces of polished jade, one metal chain, and eight daggers from Weiyabontha Monastery; and eight pieces of jade from Thiri Mingala Monastery.

During similar raids carried out this morning the security forces seized 12 rubies, seven jade rings, four ruby bracelets, 216 pieces of polished jade of various sizes, 907 Russian diamonds, 626 sapphires, 11 Popa Chedi stones [used as amulet], one packet of mother-of-pearl, one mother-of-pearl and gold brooch, four pearls, and 206 emeralds from Alakapa Monastery in Hlwataung Monastertic complex.

It has been learned that security forces are continuing their raids and searches of monasteries in Mandalay for illegal organizations and objects not related to religion.

Khin Nyunt, Others Visit Mon State Monks

BK2810144190 Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 28 Oct 90

[Excerpts] Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], in the company of Commodore Than Nyunt, naval chief of staff; Brigadier General Thein Win, air chief of staff; Brigadier General Myo Thant, director of communications of the Defense Ministry; Brigadier General Min Thein, joint adjutant general; Brigadier General Kyaw Win, director of the Medical Corps; Brigadier General Tha Htay, director of Transport and Supply; Colonel Myint Lwin, provost marshal; responsible officials of the SLORC Office and the Office of the National Races and Border Development Committee; and directors general and managing directors of departments and work groups concerned, left Yangon [Rangoon] by a military aircraft on the morning of 27 October and arrived in Mon State's Moulmein airport at 0755. [passage omitted]

The SLORC secretary-1 and his party later proceeded to the U Khanti Maha Myatmuni Su-Taung-Pyi Pagoda where they were welcomed by the chairman and members of the pagoda treasury and trustees board. After touring and paying respects at the pagoda, the secretary-1 signed the guest registration book and presented cash donations.

Next, the secretary-1 and his party visited the historic Kyaikthalan Pagoda of Moulmein where he also donated cash and signed the guest registration book. [passage omitted]

Later, the secretary-1 and his party proceeded to the Taung Laylone Monastery of Moulmein's Htat-tan ward and paid respect to nine abbots, including Abhidaza Maharata Guru Bhatdhanta Nasena Biwuntha, who is the member of the State Ovadacariya Committee; members of State Working Committee; and monk chairmen of Mon State Sangha Nayaka committees.

In explaining religious matters, the secretary-1 said: For the past two years, the SLORC has assumed the responsibilities of the state to further the interests of the state, the people, and the religion. We, your disciples, had to assume the responsibilities of the state because the country then was on the brink of collapse. Following this, we, your disciples, while furthering the interests of the nation and the national people, have also been stepping up our efforts to repair and renovate pagodas, monasteries, and religious structures to perpetuate Buddhism as well as to glorify Buddhism in the world.

Although there are many difficulties and hardships, we, your disciples, have been working for the interests of the nation to the best of our ability, with all-out effort around the clock. In doing so, we came to notice that left-wing BCP [Burma Communist Party] insurgents, in cooperation with their organizations aboveground, were exploiting religion to conduct their activities. We also noticed the activities of right-wing forces represented by several major Western nations that are trying to bring the country under their influence. At the same time, we noticed several political parties exploiting religion and working to create difficulties for us.

The SLORC has been continuing its work in accordance with the objectives it has set. The SLORC has issued Order 6/90 today because of the events that may endanger all the sangha [monks] sects and may contravene the efforts to purify and perpetuate Buddhism. The SLORC has therefore used its power in conjunction with the power of the religion to undertake efforts to perpetuate the religion and prevent the threat of disunity within the order of the sangha.

He said: The SLORC is doing everything possible to further the interests of the nation and the national people as well as to ensure the perpetuation and purification of Buddhism.

Abhidaza Maharata Guru Bhatdhanta Nasena Biwuntha then delivered a sermon. [passage omitted]

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Mahathir Assails U.S. Cut of Military Grant

BK2810132490 Kuala Lumpur RTM Television Network 1 in Malay 1200 GMT 28 Oct 90

[Text] The action by the U.S. Congress to discontinue a 2.7-million-ringgit military training grant to Malaysia is saddening. Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir said the action showed the United States was using its power to pressure small countries.

[Begin recording] [Mahathir] This shows the United States never hesitates to take such action against small countries. Always, there is economic arm-twisting [preceding sentence spoken in English]. I feel very saddened, because they cannot come to any decision against other countries that have taken uglier actions, for example slaying 21 Palestinians. We want to maintain our national interests. They have also done the same in the past. In fact, the United States chases away Mexicans and Haitians trying to enter the country; however, it seems they never hesitate to knock heads because they are strong while we are weak.

[Unidentified reporter] [Question indistinct]
[Mahathir] What can we do? We are a small country. We are weak. Might is right [preceding sentence spoken in English]. This is what is called might is right [preceding three words in English]. If you are strong, you can do whatever you want.

[Unidentified reporter] Then, may the grant be revoked?
[Mahathir] Revoked. Okay.

[Unidentified reporter] [Question indistinct]
[Mahathir] In fact, we do not need that money. We simply need the expertise. If they are unwilling to give it, that would be fine. [end recording]

The U.S. Congress passed the Foreign Aid Amendment Act presented by Senator Mark Hatfield from Oregon. The senator exploited the Vietnamese refugee issue, alleging that Malaysia is preventing the refugees from landing. The refugee issue has been stirred up because Hatfield wants to garner votes for a senatorial election next month.

Mahathir Gives Speech, Announces New Cabinet

BK2610112090 Kuala Lumpur RTM Television Network 1 in Malay 0935 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Speech by Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed presenting the new cabinet to foreign and Malaysian reporters in the Prime Minister's office in Kuala Lumpur—live]

[Excerpt] Ladies and gentlemen: A short while ago, I had an audience at the State Palace with His Majesty Sultan Azlan Shah, the paramount ruler, on the new cabinet lineup. His majesty approved the new cabinet lineup. The interests of the component parties of the National Front as well as the states were taken into account in appointing members of the cabinet, deputy ministers, and parliamentary secretaries. Before making the list, I met and held talks with heads of the component parties of the National Front. There are several new faces among the ministers, deputy ministers, and parliamentary secretaries. They have been appointed because I feel they are capable of making contributions to the government.

I would like to reiterate that the mandate the people have given to the National Front, which won over two-thirds of the contested seats, will be used with full responsibility for the interests of the people and country. I would also like to reiterate that the National Front government will continue to administer the country on the basis of competence and trustworthiness so the country will continue to enjoy peace, stability, and prosperity. As a responsible government, we will do our best to implement policies and programs that will bring benefit and goodness to all Malaysians. The government will make more serious efforts to speed up national development and the people's progress. Members of the cabinet and deputy ministers will take oaths of office and allegiance before his majesty the paramount ruler at the state palace on Saturday, 27 October 1990, at 3:30 pm [0730 GMT].

Now, I would like to announce the list of members of the Cabinet, deputy ministers, and parliamentary secretaries.

The Prime Minister's Department	
Prime Minister:	Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamed
Deputy Prime Minister:	Ghafar Baba
Ministers in the Prime Minister's Department:	Datuk Abang Abu Bakar bin Datuk
	Bandar Abang Haji Mustafa
	Syed Hamid bin Syed Jaafar Albar (concurrently Justice Minister)
Deputy Ministers:	Raja Datuk Ariffin bin Raja Sulaiman
	Datuk Drs. Suleiman bin Mohamed
	Datuk Wong See Wah
	Datuk Dr. Haji Abdul Hamid bin
	Haji Osman
Parliamentary Secretaries:	Haji Othman bin Abdul
	Mr. Douglas Ugah Empas
Home Affairs Ministry	
Home Affairs Minister:	Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamed
Deputy Home Affairs Minister:	Datuk Megat Junid Megat Ayob
Rural Development Ministry	
Minister:	Mr.Ghafar Baba
Deputy Minister:	Mr. Mohamed Yassin bin Kamari
Parliamentary Secretary:	Shatuh Mohamed bin Jumrah Transport Ministry
Minister:	Datuk Sri Dr. Ling Liong Sik
Deputy Minister:	Datin Paduka Hajjah Zaleha binti Ismail
Energy, Telecommunications and Post Ministry	
Minister:	Datuk Sri S. Samy Vellu
Deputy Minister:	Datuk Mohamed Tajol Rosli bin Mohamed Ghazali
Primary Industries Ministry	
Minister:	Datuk Sri Dr. Lim Keng Yaik
Deputy Minister:	Tengku Mahmood bin Tengku Mansor
Public Works Ministry	
Minister:	Datuk Leo Moggie anak Irup
Deputy Ministers:	Datuk Peter Singham anak Kuwarau
	Mr. Kerk Choo Ting
International Trade and Industry Ministry	
Minister:	Datuk Sri Rafidah Aziz
Deputy Minister:	Mr. Chua Ji Meng
Parliamentary Secretary:	Datuk Dr. K.S. Nijhar
Internal Trade and Consumer Affairs	
Minister:	Datuk Dr. Haji Sulaiman bin Daud
Deputy Minister:	Datuk Abdul Kadir bin Haji Sheikh Fadzir
Agriculture Ministry	
Minister:	Datuk Sri Sanusi bin Junid
Parliamentary Secretary:	Haji Mohamed Shariff bin Haji Omar
Education Ministry	
Minister:	Datuk Sri Anwar bin Ibrahim
Deputy Ministers:	Dr. Leo Micheal Toyad
	Dr. Fong Chan Onn
Foreign Ministry	
Minister:	Datuk Haji Abu Hassan bin Haji Omar
Deputy Minister:	Datuk Dr. Abdullah Fadzil bin Che Wan
Finance Ministry	
Minister:	Datuk Paduka Daim bin Zainuddin
Deputy Ministers:	Datuk Loke Yuen Yow
	Datuk Abdl Ghani bin Othman
Health Ministry	
Minister:	Datuk Lee Kim Sai
Deputy Minister:	Mr. Mohamed Farid bin Arifin
Parliamentary Secretary:	Mr. Ong Kah Ching
Defense Ministry	
Minister:	Datuk Sri Haji Mohamed Najib bin Tun Haji Abdul Razak
Deputy Minister:	Datuk Wan Abu Bakar bin Wan Mohamed
Information Ministry	
Minister:	Datuk Mohamed bin Rahmat
Deputy Minister:	Mr. Railey bin Haji Jefri
Parliamentary Secretary:	Datuk Fawzi bin Abdul Rahman
Culture, Arts and Tourism Ministry	
Minister:	Datuk Sabaruddin bin Chik
Deputy Minister:	Mr. Chan Kong Choy
Parliamentary Secretary:	Datuk Haji Abdul Rahman bin Sulaiman
National Unity and Social Development Ministry	
Minister:	Datuk Napsiah binti Haji Omar
Deputy Minister:	Datuk Alexander Yew Loong Lee
Parliamentary Secretary:	Mr. Yong Koon Seng
Public Enterprises Ministry	
Minister:	Datuk Dr. Mohamed Yusof bin Haji Mohamed Nor
Deputy Minister:	Datuk Dr. Siti Zaharah binti Sulaiman
Human Resources Ministry	
Minister:	Datuk Lim Ah Lek
Science, Technology and Environment Ministry	
Minister:	Mr. Low Hian Ding
Deputy Minister:	Mr. Peter Chin Fah Kooi
Housing and Local Government Ministry	
Minister:	Dr. Ting Chew Peh
Deputy Minister:	Mr. Osu bin Haji Sukap
Lands and Cooperatives Development Ministry	
Minister:	Tan Sri Haji Sakaran bin Dandai
Deputy Minister:	Datuk Haji Khalid bin Mohamed Yunus
Parliamentary Secretary:	Mr. Mohamed Noh bin Rejab

Justice Ministry	
Minister:	Syed Hamid bin Syed Jaafar Albar
Youth and Sports Ministry	
Minister:	Mr. Haji Anuar bin Musa
Deputy Minister:	Mr. Teng Gaik Kuan
Parliamentary Secretary:	Datuk Ismail Said

These are the names of the Cabinet ministers, deputy ministers, and parliamentary secretaries. The number of ministries has been increased from 24 to 25 with the addition of a new ministry. [passage omitted]

Opposition Party Leader Retracts Resignation

BK2910064790 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0624 GMT 29 Oct 90

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Oct 29 (OANA/BERNAMA)—Opposition leader Lim Kit Siang has decided to remain as Secretary-General of the Democratic Action Party (DAP) after a party meeting unanimously rejected his resignation.

Lim had tendered his resignation on Oct 24 after accepting full responsibility for the setback suffered by the DAP in the Oct 21 general election, citing five reasons for his decision to quit.

Lim said that he yielded to the unanimous rejection of his resignation by the DAP Central Executive Committee and the nationwide request of party members and supporters. He also gave an eight-point list of DAP and the loose opposition coalition of Gagasan Rakyat [People's Might] breakthroughs in the general election to support his continued tenure as Secretary-General. This included the DAP winning its most number of state assembly seats in its history and depriving the National Front coalition of its two-thirds majority in the Pulau Pinang island state government.

This is the second time since 1980 Lim has tendered his resignation as Secretary-General—a post he has held since 1969—only to withdraw it later after being similarly persuaded when his resignation was rejected by the same party committee.

Singapore

Lee Says Mahathir Victory Good for Relations

BK2610090590 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 25 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] Shenzhen—Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed's two-thirds majority victory in the Malaysian general election is good for Singapore-Malaysia relations, Mr. Lee Kuan Yew said here yesterday.

"I think it's good for our relations because the opposition made co-operation with Singapore an issue and faulted the federal government and the state government of Johor for taking a co-operative position with Singapore," he said at a press conference just before leaving Shenzhen for Hongkong.

Those who were most critical of working with Singapore had not done well while those who had come out very strongly for working with the Republic, such as Johor's Mentri Besar [Chief Minister] Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, had done very well, noted the Prime Minister.

In the election, the National Front won 127 seats in the 180-seat parliament, with the combined opposition and independents taking 53. In Johor, the National Front won 32 of the 36 state seats and the DAP [Democratic Action Party] took four.

On the DAP winning three more state seats in Johor, Mr. Lee said he assumed that the Johor DAP would not be against co-operation with Singapore because, if they were, it meant that they did not want Johor to benefit from Singapore's economic growth.

Turning to the overal results, Mr. Lee said that it would have been much more of a triumph if the National Front had also won Kelantan, and in Penang with Dr. Lim Chong Eu. But he added that Dr. Mahathir's victory was a "tour de force". "He was not in a robust state when he started his tours of the various states but (he had) tremendous will power, determination and just sheer guts. He worked step by step, state by state, and carried the day. And I think it was a tremendous triumph for UMNO [United Malays National Organization] and the Barisan Nasional [National Front]," he said.

Mandarin Language Program 'Off to a Bad Start'

BK2810091590 Hong Kong AFP in English 0850 GMT 28 Oct 90

[Text] Singapore, Oct 28 (AFP)—Singapore's annual speak-Mandarin campaign which was launched here early this month appears to have gotten off to a bad start this time.

While the pro-Mandarin group argue that the campaign is aimed at only dialect-speaking Chinese Singaporeans, non-Chinese as well as non-Mandarin speaking Chinese fear it will reduce the status of English as the lingua franca on the island.

Along with the launching of the current speak-Mandarin campaign, the government suggested that Chinese may be taught as a first language in primary school, followed by English as the first language in secondary school. It said the move will help to preserve Asian values among the Chinese community.

First Deputy Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, however, made it clear that the scheme would be implemented only if the Education Ministry was convinced that the bulk of students could effectively make the switch and that parents would be given the final choice. Mr. Goh, who will take over the premiership from Lee Kuan Yew next month, has designated the Minister of State for Finance and Foreign Affairs George Yeo to head the campaign.

The Chinese- and the English-educated fear the plan will lead to a fall in English standards in the island republic. Chinese and non-Chinese alike and the opposition Singapore Democratic Party (SDP) have expressed strong reservations about the campaign, which has also called on Chinese professionals to "speak Mandarin at work."

The government claims the campaign, repeated every October since 1979, has made more than 80 per cent of Singapore's Chinese capable of speaking Mandarin. English is the premier official language of the city state, where ethnic Chinese form nearly 76 per cent of the 2.6 million citizens. Other official languages are Chinese, Malay and Tamil.

Meanwhile, some of the teachers, as quoted by the SUNDAY TIMES, have expressed serious concern over the language issue. "The English standard in most of the secondary schools would suffer if too much emphasis is placed on Chinese in primary school," said Chia Eng Soon, a teacher at a suburban secondary school.

An official of the government-run Singapore Broadcasting Corporation believes there is a scarcity of good English writers now compared with six or seven years ago.

Prime Minister Lee expressed his concern a few years ago about local bureaucrats' "slipshod English".

The assistant head of the English Language Department at the National University of Singapore, N.S. Prabhu, told the Sunday paper that it was inarguable that English here needed to be a "knowledge generator". If not, the island will only be relying on the flow of knowledge and technology from the West and denying itself the chance to share in the "knowledge generating" process, he said.

Whether the standard of English in Singapore in recent years has declined or not, it was generally believed that the language level needs to be improved. Senior Minister of State for Education Tay Eng Soon said that with "more and more parents better educated now and speaking better English," the improvement was bound to happen.

Cambodia

Hor Namhong Demands Cease-Fire Before Meeting

BK2610154390 Hong Kong AFP in English 1518 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Phnom Penh, Oct 26 (AFP)—Cambodia's foreign minister, Hor Namhong, said Friday that a voluntary ceasefire in Cambodia must be concluded before the international Paris conference in Jakarta. The minister's condition came at a time when numerous observers here have noted preparations for new military offensives by government troops and the guerrilla coalition when the dry season starts in a few weeks.

"The voluntary ceasefire is needed before the holding of the Paris conference, otherwise it would be put under pressure by the Khmer Rouge and that would be the end," said the minister in an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

The coalition joins the dominant Beijing-backed Marxist Khmer Rouge with two non-communist groups headed by Prince Sihanouk, Cambodia's former monarch, and ex-Prime Minister Son Sann.

Mr. Hor Namhong also said a solution must be found to the problem of the final composition of the Supreme National Council (SNC) of Cambodia before the international Paris Conference. "You cannot go back, and if everybody is reasonable, I hope that the Cambodian problem will be solved within a year," said Mr. Hor Namhong.

Despite the agreement of Cambodia's warring factions to a UN-brokered peace plan, the peace process has been deadlocked by differences over the final composition of the SNC, a joint interim authority of the factions. "The ceasefire, refused by the other party, is still necessary for the United Nations intervention, as called for in the plan," the minister said.

Phnom Penh has refused to accept Prince Sihanouk as chairman of the SNC unless Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen is named deputy chairman.

France and Indonesia, who both chair the Paris conference—first held in August 1989 but without result—have indicated that it would be held again before the end of the year. The conference is expected to produce a formalised agreement between the combatants on the UN-sponsored peace plan to end the 12-year-old conflict.

The warring Cambodian factions accepted on September 10 in Jakarta a peace plan formulated by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council. The plan set up the 12-member SNC, representing Phnom Penh and the tripartite opposition led by Prince Sihanouk.

Mr. Hor Namhong said an SNC meeting "very soon" had not yet been ruled out, and would preferably be held in Bangkok. An earlier SNC meeting in Bangkok after the Jakarta agreement failed to reach a conclusion.

Mr. Hor Namhong said Phnom Penh's insistence on Mr. Hun Sen as deputy chairman was "designed to not upset the balance on which the parties from the Jakarta meeting had agreed."

Mr. Hor Namhong said, however, that he thought there was still a chance the Paris conference could be held before the end of the year "if the opposition respects the letter and the spirit of the Jakarta agreement."

Meanwhile, in Bangkok, Prince Norodom Sihanouk's faction Friday accused Vietnam's ambassador to Cambodia of rejecting a United Nations peace plan to end the war in the Southeast Asian nation.

Commenting on remarks Thursday by the ambassador, Ngo Dien, ruling out the dismantling of Phnom Penh's Vietnam-installed government, [sentence as received] "This statement means that Ngo Dien and (the) Phnom Penh regime (have) already rejected the peace plan," the faction said in a statement.

Hor Namhong Meets Australian Official Costello

BK2710134190 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] On the morning of 27 October, Comrade Hor Namhong, foreign minister of the State of Cambodia, held talks with Michael Costello, Australian deputy foreign minister, with the participation of Comrade Sok An and Comrade Long Visalo, deputy foreign ministers; Comrade Uch Kim-an, chief of the Political Affairs Department; and Comrade Uch Borit, chief of the Asia-Australia Department of the Foreign Ministry.

The talks centered on advancing the peace process in Cambodia step by step and in succession in the future within the framework of a political and comprehensive solution. The talks went on in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

PRC Contacts Bring Possible 'Red Solution'

BK2710141690 Hong Kong AFP in English 1401 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Phnom Penh, Oct 27 (AFP)—Direct contacts between China and the government here have rekindled speculation of a "red solution" in Cambodia based on an agreement between Phnom Penh's Communist Party and the radical Khmer Rouge.

Factions within the ruling Kampuchea People's Revolutionary Party (KPRP) here—made up largely of former Khmer Rouge—are exploring the possibility of preserving communism in Cambodia as a way of resolving the civil war, according to several Cambodian sources.

The Marxist Khmer Rouge is the military backbone of the Cambodian resistance trying to topple the government here, which was installed after Vietnam invaded Cambodia in 1978 to topple a Khmer Rouge regime. But the possibility of such a "red solution" was rejected by the Cambodian Foreign Minister Hor Namhong, who acknowledged however that "this idea has germinated in the minds of some."

"This solution is ruled out," he told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE on Friday. Mr. Hor Namhong is considered close to Prime Minister Hun Sen, and Western and Cambodian sources said the premier would reject such a solution. Mr. Hun Sen's position is presently fragile in the face of a conservative faction within the ruling party which launched a campaign to regain control of the KPRP and tighten domestic control, notably by a crackdown on corruption.

"A solution of this kind would be rejected by the people, who have not forgotten the millions killed when the Khmer Rouge were in power" between 1975 and 1979, said the foreign minister, who is not a member of the ruling party.

Recent contacts between China, which backs the Khmer Rouge, and Hanoi, Phnom Penh's main ally, have opened the way to normalized ties between Asia's two largest communist nations. Both have reaffirmed their commitment to maintaining socialism despite changes towards democracy elsewhere.

The contacts between Phnom Penh and China took place after the meeting in August in Jakarta, where the warring Cambodian factions accepted a U.N. peace plan and the creation of Supreme National Council (SNC) grouping the factions. Since the meeting however, the formation of the SNC has been blocked because of Phnom Penh's refusal to accept resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk as chairman of the council unless Mr. Hun Sen is made vice chairman.

Officials said that Cambodian Vice Foreign Minister Sok An met with Chinese officials in Jakarta and Bangkok. They said another vice minister, Long Visalo, held talks with Chinese officials during the same time. "The direct contacts between us and the Chinese have contributed to facilitating things," Mr. Hor Nam Hong said. He said Phnom Penh "wanted normal relations of friendship and cooperation with China."

Thai Airline Inaugurates Flight to Phnom Penh

BK2610150390 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0422 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK October 26—A Thai airline made its first direct commercial flight to Phnom Penh Thursday, a spokeswoman of Bangkok Airways was quoted by AFP as saying.

The privately-owned airline is to operate two chartered flights a week, on Monday and Thursday, from Bangkok to the Cambodian capital, she said.

The first plane to have left Bangkok was a De Havilland Dash 8 with a capacity of 36, the spokeswoman said.

Bangkok Airways had made several trial flights to the Cambodian capital over the last few months before deciding to open its service to compete with European airlines.

Another charter Firm-Air Liberte of France is scheduled to begin weekly flights from Paris to Phnom Penh on October 30, using an Airbus 300-600R.

Resistance Sources Say Preparing for Offensive

BK2810061590 Hong Kong AFP in English 0547 GMT 28 Oct 90

[Text] Bangkok, Oct 28 (AFP)—Guerrilla forces are preparing for a renewed dry season offensive against Cambodia's Vietnamese-installed government in which they claim to be able to deploy battle tanks, resistance sources said Sunday.

Battle tanks recently delivered by China to the militarily strongest faction in the tripartite resistance coalition, the Khmer Rouge, as well as several Phnom Penh army tanks seized by the faction and their non-communist allies loyal to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, are expected to be used against government positions, the sources said. One resistance official, who asked that his name and identification of his faction be withheld, said the tanks would be deployed in attacks on urban areas in the upcoming dry season starting at the end of the year.

The Khmer Rouge reportedly have some 20 T-59 battle tanks, recently delivered by China, and a small number of captured Soviet-made T-54's, while Prince Sihanouk's forces have captured four Soviet-made T-54 battle tanks, "two and a half" of which are in operational condition, he said.

The official declined to say which cities would be attacked, but senior Thai military officers monitoring Cambodia have said the Khmer Rouge do not have the capability to hold an urban center for long. The Khmer Rouge started launching attacks on the Siem Reap area near the ancient Angkor Wat temple, the symbol of Cambodia's heritage, earlier this month.

Guerrillas have been "trained in a foreign country" to drive tanks, the official said, adding that the Chinese T-59 and Soviet T-54 tanks were "not very sophisticated" and thus not difficult to operate. He refused to identify the country that had trained the drivers, but an official source in Phnom Penh said earlier this month that Khmer Rouge guerrillas had been trained on Chinese armoured vehicles in a camp in neighboring Thailand.

"We are gradually switching over to conventional warfare," the resistance official said, suggesting that there was an attempt to replace the current hit-and-run tactics with sustained offensives.

The guerrilla official said such heavy mobile equipment could not be deployed during the present rainy season on Cambodia's mostly dirt roads. "The tanks will become very useful in the final stages of the war," he said. "The backbone of the Phnom Penh army is its tanks. Without tanks the army would have collapsed a long time ago," he claimed.

The official confirmed reports earlier this month that the Khmer Rouge had received the Chinese tanks during the past two or three months. The shipments were reportedly detected by Western intelligence satellites. Reports quoted Bangkok-based analysts as saying the tanks were of the T-59 model, the Chinese equivalent of the Soviet T-54. But an official source in Phnom Penh said that while Khmer Rouge military capacity appeared to have strengthened, their possession of armored equipment vehicles could not be confirmed.

Officials in Phnom Penh said earlier this month that major strikes were being prepared nationwide against the Khmer Rouge.

Sihanouk's Office Cites Report on SRV Plan

BK2810021290 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 2300 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] The office of the personal representatives of His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk in Cambodia and Asia has issued a statement quoting a secret report from the National Army of Independent Cambodia as saying that Vietnam and the Vietnamese-installed regime have prepared a secret plan to destroy the peace plan hammered out by the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC].

The report indicates that Vietnamese and Lao officials and Heng Samrin regime held a secret meeting in Phnom Penh on 2 September on the Big Five's peace plan for Cambodia, which is endorsed by the 15 members of the UNSC. The report says the Vietnamese and Lao officials and the Heng Samrin regime conceded that Vietnam, Laos, and the Heng Samrin regime were not be able to oppose openly the UNSC's peace framework document for Cambodia, which represents the view of the world. They also acknowledged the failure of their attempt to prevent the efforts by the five UNSC permanent members from mapping out the peace plan for Cambodia. They likened the implementation of the peace plan to a drop of nuclear bombs on Cambodian [word indistinct] and said the UNSC peace plan was the most fatal weapon against the communist (?Vietnam and Laos) and the Vietnamese-installed communist Heng Samrin regime.

The report adds that at the secret meeting, the Vietnamese and Lao officials and Heng Samrin regime decided they should employ all possible maneuvers to destroy, or at least delay, the implementation of the peace plan adopted by the UNSC for Cambodia.

Khieu Samphan Interviewed 26 Oct on Documents

BK2710115890 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Interview with Khieu Samphan by Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea; dated 26 October—read by announcer]

[Text] [Question] Greetings to Mr. Vice President. What is the progress of the process to end the Vietnamese war of aggression in Cambodia via a comprehensive political solution so far?

[Answer] The basic document of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council [UNSC] is a big step toward ending the war of aggression waged by the Vietnamese in Cambodia. The 10 September Jakarta joint statement is also another big step. The two documents are the great victories of the struggle conducted by the Cambodian people as well as the efforts exerted by the entire international community. However, the Hanoi authorities remain stubborn and refuse to adhere to the two documents. They have been trying to destroy the two documents through diplomatic activities and actions on the battlefield of aggression against Cambodia by continuously shipping their aggressor troops to the country.

It is worth recalling that on 4 October, Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach openly opposed the document forged by the five permanent members of the UNSC at the 45th UN General Assembly [UNGA]. Vietnam has destroyed the UNSC's five permanent members' document and the Jakarta joint statement because it fears the United Nations, in particular a UN peacekeeping force, will come and control the complete withdrawal of its troops from Camdodia. The Vietnamese have ordered their puppets in Phnom Penh to oppose Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's being elected chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC] and to raise one condition after another, because they are afraid the SNC headed by Samdech Norodom Sihanouk will, in concert with the United Nations and the UN peacekeeping force, verify the complete withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia. The Vietnamese and puppets' actions clearly show the world that they are opposed to and destroying the five UNSC permanent members' document and the Jakarta joint statement. They are against a settlement to end the Vietnamese war of aggression in Cambodia and against peace in Cambodia and Southeast Asia to further occupy Cambodia and implement their small, medium, and grand Indochinese federation strategies.

As for the Cambodian people and the Cambodian national resistance [CNR], which have conducted arduous and persistent struggle against the Vietnamese aggressors over the past 12 years, they have enthusiastically supported the document hammered out by the five UNSC permanent members and the Jakarta joint statement. They have earnestly demanded that the two documents be strictly and speedily implemented without alteration. The Cambodian people and the CNR want the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia to end and Cambodia to recover its independence and peace as quickly as possible.

[Question] In the situation where the Vietnamese and puppets object to and destroy the five UNSC permanent members' document and the Jakarta joint statement, what are the plans and measures to be taken by the Cambodian national forces, in particular by the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [PDK]?

[Answer] The Cambodian people and the three Cambodian national resistance forces have unambiguously known the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors and their Phnom Penh lackey puppets' real intention of completely destroying the documents to prevent their implementation. The three Cambodian national resistance forces have unanimously agreed to defend the two basic documents at all costs. In particular, our PDK will in no way allow the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors and their puppets in Phnom Penh to destroy the two documents at will. The PDK would like to reaffirm to the world that the PDK fully respects the two documents without altering or adding anything to them. The PDK also demands that all parties concerned completely respect the two documents by not asking any change or addition. Otherwise, the documents will be modified, the Vietnamese war in Cambodia will never end, and the devastation caused by the destructive war to the Cambodian nation and people will continue endlessly.

In this spirit, the PDK and other resistance forces on 10 October 1990 called for the reconvening of an early meeting among the four Cambodian parties to appoint the chairman of the SNC in keeping with the basic document of the five UNSC permanent members and the Jakarta joint statement to discuss other issues.

The PDK enthusiastically welcomes Indonesian Foreign Minister His Excellency Ali Alatas' call for the reconvening of an early meeting among the four Cambodian parties with the same objective. The PDK as well as the entire CNR welcomes and supports the drive displayed by near and distant friends throughout the world to promote the progress [of a settlement] in accordance with the objectives of the five UNSC permanent members' basic document and the Jakarta joint statement.

Taking this opportunity, I, on behalf of the PDK, would like to thank all the near and distant friendly countries for their constant support to the Cambodian people's national independence cause. The Cambodian people appeal to those countries to continue their valuable assistance, in particular their protection of the document forged by the five UNSC permanent members and the Jakarta joint statement, contributing to urging all the parties concerned to complete sincerely the implementation of the documents.

VONADK Reports SRV Regiment 'Ambushed'

BK2910023390 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 28 Oct 90

[Text] Between 21 and 22 October, the Vietnamese aggressors and their puppet-lackeys sent a regiment of forces to resist us on Damrei Romeal Hill in Tram Kak District of Takeo Province. However, these enemy forces were ambushed by our national resistance forces. They also ran over our mines, suffering 14 killed and 27 wounded. Among those killed were a Vietnamese battalion commander and a company commander. We seized a drum-magazine machine gun, six AK's, an AR-15, and a quantity of assorted ammunition and war materiel.

VONADK: Svay Leu District Seat 'Liberated'

BK2910010890 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 28 Oct 90

[Summary] "On 26 October, our national resistance forces attacked and totally liberated Svay Leu District seat in Siem Reap Province." Svay Leu District seat is located in Svay Leu village on the eastern part of Kulen Mountain near Boeng Mealea.

The operation to liberate Svay Leu District seat was carried out through a combined military and political offensive. The political offensive was carried out in cooperation with the people, administrators, and militiamen who have been forced to serve the Vietnamese enemies and the puppet ringleaders in this district seat. This is why this operation proceeded with total success.

The people in Svay Leu and Mealea communes are very happy with the liberation of their villages and communes because they can now completely harvest their crops.

Kompong Som City Governor Said Wounded 8 Oct

BK2710014790 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] On 8 October, our national resistance forces ambushed a truck convoy of the Vietnamese aggressors and puppets in an area south of the Tanei steel bridge on Route National 4, burning five trucks on the spot. We killed three and wounded five Vietnamese-puppet soldiers, including the seriously wounded puppet governor of Kompong Som city, and we completely destroyed the material on the trucks.

Philippines

Aquino on Labor Strike, Security Council, Oil

HK2910051190 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 1300 GMT 28 Oct 90

["Statement" by Philippine President Corazon C. Aquino on her weekly radio program "Ask the President"—recorded; italicized portions in English]

[Excerpts] My beloved countrymen: We witnessed last week what was called the "National Strike" in which leftist forces evidently participated. This incident resulted in the destruction of property worth more or less 25 million pesos. Four of our countrymen were killed due to violence by the guileful left and many others were wounded.

Our peace-abiding citizens condemned this violence. Although the citizen possesses freedom of speech, it is not part of that right to ruin other people's property, to prevent others from doing what they want, and the use of threats to persuade others to join their actions.

I condemn the violent manner with which welga [strike] was carried out last Wednesday. Again, there is no doubt that enemies determined to overthrow our constitutional government made use of a right guaranteed and protected by the same Constitution to advance their cause. Without the violence and the destructive acts committed by the antidemocratic elements, the welga would have made its point without causing so much pain and agony on the part of ordinary commuters and workers. The illegal acts were carried out despite the apparent willingness of some labor groups to [words indistinct] of the Metro Manila Wage Board to expand the coverage of its recent wage order to include in the 17-peso wage increase not only those earning the minimum but also those earning between 89 pesos and 125 pesos.

Labor Secretary Ruben Torres continues to discuss this matter with our top labor leaders including those of the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines and the Labor Advisory Consultative Council in the hope that an agreement to all could be reached.

The regional wage board is a proper forum where labor can pursue its demand. The regional wage board is composed of representatives from labor and management and government.

While we lament the loss of lives and destruction of property, we cannot but notice that the welga has betrayed a serious diminution in the strength and capabilities of the CPP-NPA [Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army]. The burning of buses to coerce transport companies to participate in the strike was an admission that they did not have the support of the transport sector.

I would like to thank those who showed bravery in the fulfilment of their duties during the strike despite the threats to them. I wish to extend my deepest sympathy to the family of slain Patrolman First Class Luisito Ablamo of the Pila police force in Laguna, who lost his life while preventing leftist elements from burning a passenger bus. Two points became clear to our countrymen as a result of this incident: First, the CPP-NPA, who have pretended to be the country's saviour, have been unmasked and their real goals shown. Secondly, it was proven that the leftist forces will not hesitate to use force, even against their own countrymen, in advancing their cause. This use of force clearly indicates a waning movement.

If there were any success on the part of the CPP-NPA, it was only in further alienating the people from their cause. It is best that they be reminded of one of the most cherished sayings, that the fish needs water in order to live. Take away the water and the fish will die. With their latest fiasco, this moribund movement may well be likened to a dying fish washed ashore.

These troublemakers have given the (cause) of labor its blackest moment in its history. Let me assure our people that those elements responsible for the recent outburst of violence shall be held responsible for their wanton acts. [passage omitted]

The way of reasonable men is peaceful dialogue. There is much more that can be accomplished when reason and sobriety are used in problem solving. This was proven in the budget summit held last week. There I invited the leaders of both houses of congress to work with me in the effort to determine how government expenditures could be slashed. [passage omitted]

As a revenue generation measure, we will also be working for the passage of a law legalizing the stay of illegally overstaying aliens. The recently concluded successful budget summit was a [words indistinct] of the ability of our democratic institution to phrase together, decide together and work together to confront the crisis. Return to an agreement with a spirit of solidarity demanded by a greater duty to confront our common problem as a people and to serve our people's interest. [passage omitted]

The better effect of a peaceful discussion of problems was once again proven when I convened the National Security Council last Thursday in an effort to find solutions to the problems arising from the Middle East crisis. Through peaceful exchange of ideas and views, this meeting ended with several agreements reached.

[Text] *The present domestic price of petroleum products is based on $23.99 per barrel of crude in an exchange rate of P [peso] 24.45 to $1. For September and October, the price of the crude will have averaged $30 per gallon while the exchange rate has increased to P25.75 to $1. The council was informed that while it is our strongest desire to hold the present prices up to the end of the year, we can only do so if, and to the extent that, the price of crude and the peso-dollar exchange rate allow us to do so.*

Earlier, I mentioned the proposed Aliens Stay Legalization Program as a source of additional revenue for the government. In this regard I certified, on 25 October, House Bill 30878 entitled: An Act Providing for the Legalization of Stay in the Country of Certain Aliens. This bill is aimed at providing permanent resident status to aliens whose permission to stay in our country has expired, after paying a filing fee of 60,000 pesos and 30,000 pesos each for their wives and minor children. There is an estimated total of half a million illegally overstaying aliens in our country from whom a handsome amount could be collected in the event this bill becomes law. However, the purpose of this bill is not just the amount we can derive from it. Foremost is our wish to put in order the documentation of aliens in our country. This is in an effort to remove bad elements from our country and allow the aliens who could genuinely help in our development activities in the country. Many have expressed fear about the possible result of this proposal. According to some of our countrymen, this is allegedly a widespread granting of citizenship to aliens. Second, they fear that these aliens would deprive them of jobs. Others are also worried that this bill would pardon the aliens in the country who have violated the law. I wish to clarify these matters: First, the bill's purpose is to grant these aliens permanent resident status. This would not mean that they are citizens of our country. *The ALiens Stay Legalization Program prescribes the procedure for the sole purpose and intent of rectifying an illegal alien's immigration status in our country. It does not grant citizenship to the legalized alien. Secondly, I would like to assure our people that there are safeguards to ensure that our people are not displaced from the labor force as a result of the legalization of overstaying aliens. The proposed law does not confer automatic admission into the labor force. Their admission to the labor force still depends on their abilities to substantially convince the proper agency concerned that they possess the necessary skills that would advance the national interest rather than pose a threat to the local labor force. In other words, legalization is not an automatic license for employment. The aliens will still be restricted in their commercial activities because they will still be subject to regulations and prescriptions that safeguard our economy.*

The incidents during the past week highlighted the success of democracy in our country. The budget summit and the National Security Council's meeting proved that the best way to solve a problem is by the peaceful way. On the other hand, the failed national strike showed the ugliness of violence launched by forces planning to grab power. Despite these incidents, we must continue to safeguard our democracy. Let us continue to express our anger at the violence sowed in our land and let us continue to adhere to democratic and peaceful means.

Effects, Extent of National Strike Viewed

HK2610045390 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 26 Oct 90 p 12

[By reporter Arnold E. Belleza]

[Text] As transport services in most parts of the metropolis returned to normal yesterday, the "Welgang Bayan [National Strike]" called by organized labor and cause-oriented groups has turned into a general industrial strike, which militant labor unions under the Labor Advisory Consultative Council (LACC) vowed to continue indefinitely until Government accedes to their wages demands.

Labor Secretary Ruben Torres said protests and strikes have "significantly been reduced," with a majority of these occurring in the national capital region (NCR), "and some in Region 4 (Southern Tagalog)." In the Bataan Export Processing Zone, "nine firms have not yet resumed operations," he added.

Department of Labor and Employment [DOLE] assistant secretary Luna Piezas said "less than 50%" of 186 industrial establishments in Metro Manila which participated during Wednesday's strike first day have continued staging protest actions.

Industrial Firms

A senior DOLE official at the National Conciliation and Mediation Board (NCMB) monitoring the strike said "only around 20% of the 246" total industrial firms which participated nationwide are still picketing company premises.

On the other hand, Kilusang Mayo UNO [KMU—1 May Movement] spokesman Nicanor Elman said "not less than 300,000 workers in Metro Manila have not yet returned to their jobs" and would not do so until Government grants a P38 across-the-board nationwide wage increase for daily paid workers, P1,000 for monthly paid workers, a 43% increase for commission earners, and the grant of a living wage "that would pave the way for a decent way of life."

Emergency Meeting

An emergency meeting called by Sec Torres with LACC leaders yesterday afternoon again ended on an indefinite note, with Sec Torres expressing dissapointment over the LACC's failure to come up with specific demands.

Another meeting will take place today, with LACC leaders promising to present their demands and recommendations to Sec Torres. Paterno Menzon of the LACC said leaders of the Wage Adjustment for Government Employees Solidarity (WAGES II) coalition and leaders of the transport sector will also be present during the meeting.

On organized labor's demand for a dialogue with President Aquino, Sec Torres said this will have to be put on hold until "positive results arise" from the DOLE-LACC meetings.

National Summit

Mr Elman, however, proposed that a "national summit conference" be held between Government and all sectors concerned in the "Welgang Bayan," in order "to settle once and for all the issues behind our protest."

In another development, the traditional division between the militant LACC and the conservative Trade Union Congress of the Philippines appeared to have come into the fore once again with the TUCP issuing a statement disclaiming any intention to join the "Welgang Bayan."

"We have made it clear that the Oct 24 strike was a proposal from the KMU alone. There never was a concrete commitment from us to join it and in fact the major affiliates of the LACC did not even join." TUCP president Democrito Mendoza said.

Change of Mind

(However, the TUCP had earlier affirmed its decision to join the general strike, after which they withdrew their "active support" in a last-minute decision pending the NCR-wage board's action on their motion for reconsideration on the P17 wage increase granted last week. When the board lifted the ceiling on the increase to P125, the TUCP said they would appeal the decision again.)

Condemning the outbreak of violence which came during the "Welga's" staging, Mr Mendoza said "the unity of organized labor in the wage issue stops when force and intimidation is employed in the struggle."

Leaders of the LACC-affiliated Federation of Free Workers, the Lakas Manggagawa Labor Center, the Independent Labor Alliance of Workers, the Labor Advisory Consultative Council and the KMU reacted sharply to Mr Mendoza's statements, saying the TUCP resorted to "historically proven" behavior.

No Success

A ranking official of the Department of Local Governemnt (DLG) disputed yesterday the claim by leaders of striking labor groups that the Welgang Bayan was a success.

DLG Undersecretary for Public Safety Rolleo L. Ignacio said the claim might have been based only upon reported incidents that occurred mostly in Metro Manila. Mr Ignacio noted that in other regions, the situation has been peaceful and normal despite proclamations of the protest action's success by labor leaders during a so-called "people's caucus" held Wednesday night.

"The general assessment, therefore, is that the strike was not successful," he pointed out.

Earlier, Local Governments Secretary Luis Santos instructed all mayors and barangay captains, especially those in Metro Manila, to be on guard for any eventuality during the strike. Sec Santos also urged local officials to report to the military or police authorities any form of public disorder by the strikers.

Normal

Mr Ignacio cited reports from Region IX, Tuguegarao, South Cotabato and Gen Santos City which noted that during the strike, the situation in these areas was normal. Business went on as usual and schools remained open as students attended their classes.

Mr Ignacio said in Metro Manila, only the transport sector was greatly affected. This was due to the suspension of operations by most bus companies due to the torching of several buses by radical groups. The decision of some jeepney drivers to stop plying their routes because of intimidation from their co-drivers also added to the lack of public conveyance.

Marcos 'Crony' Surrenders P1-Billion Assets

HK2610052790 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 26 Oct 90 pp 1, 6

[By staff member Julie Javellana]

[Text] Another Marcos crony, Roberto S. Benedicto, has agreed to turn over to the Philippine government more than P [Peso] 1 billion in assets in exchange for immunity from suit. The agreement would remove Benedicto from the list of respondents in three civil cases filed before the Sandiganbayan [Antigraft Court] three years ago.

The agreement will be signed by Benedicto and Good Government Chairman David Castro in Hong Kong on Friday.

Under the agreement, Benedicto will turn over to the government 21 radio stations and three television stations (two of which are functioning), plus 20% of the shares of stocks of Oriental Petroleum Mining Corp (OPMC). Of the two television stations, Channels 9 and 13, being relinquished by Benedicto, Channel 13 is said to be making money and is worth about P470 million. Channel 9 is in the red.

In addition, he will surrender to the government his P400-million Piedras Inc holding company, which owns 20% of OMPC. He had earlier surrendered his Los Angeles-based California Overseas Bank (COB) and a $16-million deposit in Swiss banks.

The agreement places Benedicto among the ranks of Marcos cronies who had entered into compromise agreements with the PCGG [Presidential Commission on Good Government]. They include Antonio Floirendo, Jose Y. Campos, Rolando Gapud and Anos Fonacier.

Castro said that the government would in effect get another fifth of the shares of stocks of OPMC through Benedicto's Piedras, in addition to the 20% of OPMC the government had acquired from Campos.

The agreement with Benedicto comes more than a month before the deadline set by Castro for respondents in hidden-wealth cases to negotiate compromise settlements. Castro had set a mid-December deadline for such compromise arrangements. The agreement with Benedicto will be the first since Castro announced the deadline.

The PCGG began negotiating with Benedicto early this year, when he first turned over COB in exchange for being dropped as a defendant in the criminal racketeering case filed against Imelda Marcos by the U.S. Justice Department.

A few months later, Benedicto turned over $16 million to the Philippine government as a form of "retribution." The PCGG ensured that Benedicto had indeed turned over his entire Swiss bank accounts.

Ileto Threatens To Suspend Peace Talks

HK2610045190 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 26 Oct 90 p 12

[By reporters Anthony L. Cuaycong and Joey G. de Guzman]

[Text] Government may indefinitely suspend ongoing peace initiatives with Communist rebels in light of violent disturbances during last Wednesday's "Welgang Bayan [National Strike]."

This was revealed to newsmen yesterday by National Security Adviser Rafael Ileto. "We will discuss (the suspension of peace talks)... in view of the fact that they (left elements) are now riding on certain things to the detriment of the country."

Mr Ileto explained that should evidence point to left-leaning organizations as instigators of violence during the strike, "maybe we'll recommend a stop to all these talks."

In particular, Mr Ileto siad the Kilusang Mayo Uno [KMU—1 May Movement] may be banned by the Government "if we get enough evidence, which I think we are doing now," although the official noted that "in a democracy, it is a little difficult to do these things."

Earlier, both Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos and Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon indicated they would direct law enforcement agencies to investigate the strike.

Something Bigger

Said Mr Ramos: "This is not strictly a labor matter anymore. We see this as something bigger which requires legal action."

At the justice department, Secretary Franklin Drilon said Government intends to pursue all avenues for peace despite Wednesday's violence-marred strike. He, however, said the protesters must be condemned since violence can never be justified, noting that Wednesday's protest action was not a national strike but a "strike against the nation."

In a press conference, Sec Drilon said Cabinet Cluster E on political affairs is set to meet today with the multisectoral peace advocates to discuss the recommendations put forward by the National Peace Conference (NPC).

Earlier, the NPC, a coalition of 17 sectoral groups, met for three days in Tagaytay City to come up with their own version of a national peace agenda.

Former Agrarian Reform Secretary Florencio Abad, the conference's secretary-general, said cluster E had been furnished copies of the NPC recommendations which include the immediate withdrawal of the U.S. military facilities, immediate declaration of a moratorium on debt service payments and military reforms.

Aside from discussing the NPC's recommendations with the peace advocates, Sec Drilon said he also wishes to know the peace advocates' stand on the Wednesday strike.

Aquino Responds to Statement

HK2610131190 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 26 Oct 90

[By Gabby Salcedo from Malacanang]

[Text] President Corazon Aquino stressed the government's peace talks process with the communist rebels will continue despite the occurrence of violence in the recent national strike. The president said the peace process involved what is considered as a people's initiated or community-led initiative in that it has to be pushed through. The chief executive issued the statement in reaction to the statement by National Security Adviser Rafael Ileto that the peace process may be suspended. Authorities accused the leftist dissidents of leading off violence at the launching of the national strike in which several people were killed, injured, and arrested; and many public transport buses were burned.

Meanwhile, President Aquino refused to dismiss the rebellion charge which the government has filed against Senator Juan Ponce Enrile. The chief executive explained the National Security Council meeting attended by Vice President Salvador Laurel, Senator Juan Ponce Enrile and Representative Salvador Escuder III was not aimed at reconciling political differences between various parties. The meeting, the chief executive said, was aimed at employing the participation of various leaders in finding resolutions to the crisis facing the country like the Persian Gulf crisis and its implications.

However, while the executive, with the cooperation of the legislature, studies the issue of granting amnesty to rebels who attempted to overthrow the government, President Aquino assured all the accused due process of law.

Meanwhile, the president ordered an intensive investigation and the filing of charges against the persons who are proven to have participated in the violence when the national strike was launched last Wednesday. The president ordered Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon to file charges in accordance to the provisions of the Revised Penal Code. She also authorized the justice secretary to coordinate with the armed forces and other government agencies in fullfillment of the order.

On the government employees, the president ordered all heads of departments, bureaus, offices, and government-owned or controlled corporations to issue their employees proven to have participated in the national strike a "show cause" orders. Through this method, the employee is given the opportunity to explain his position to avoid being punished under the Civil Service Code.

The president refused to comment on the possible banning of activities by the 1 May Movement. Earlier, National Security Adviser Rafael Ileto noted the possibility of banning the 1 May Movement if sufficient evidence is gathered against the movement. The 1 May Movement led the launching of the national strike but emphatically denied any knowledge of the ensuing violence.

Bataan Rebels Said To Face Disintegration

HK2610050590 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 26 Oct 90 p 8

[By Efren P. Molina]

[Text] Balanga, Bataan—The days of the communists in Bataan are numbered, Lt Col [Lieutenant Colonel] Enrique B. Galang, Jr, Bataan PC-INP [Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police] commander, said yesterday. He said sustained military pressure and lack of support from the people have resulted in the disintegration of the New People's Army (NPA) the fighting arm of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP).

Galang said many communist rebels have surrendered their guns to lead a peaceful and productive life under the government's reconciliation program. He said the military is making a good score in the anti-rebel drive because the people have changed their attitude towards the national effort at flushing out terrorists and criminals.

The residents of Bataan, Galang said, are responding to the call for cooperation and support by giving tips to the military and the police on the presence of NPA rebels and criminals in their places.

Hopefully, Galang said, the insurgency problem which scared away investors in recent years will soon be a thing of the past. With the people's support, he said, the campaign against the insurgents will not be in vain. He said Bataan, a potential investment area in the western section of Central Luzon, is expected to draw many foreign and local investments under a climate of peace all over the province.

Galang urged the labor sector, particularly in the Bataan Export Processing Zone (BEPZ), to heed the call of Gov Leonardo B. Roman for a common effort to promote and maintain industrial peace in the zone.

Disruption of operations in any factory is economically disadvantageous to both labor and management, Galang said, adding that the workers may end up losing their jobs if their firm closes shop.

Nine Communist Rebels Killed in Quezon Clash

HK2610050790 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 26 Oct 90 pp 1, 20

[By Owen Masaganda]

[Text] Camp Nakar, Lucena City—Nine suspected New People's Army (NPA) guerrillas were killed and an undetermined number were wounded when elements of the 231st PC [Philippine Constabulary] company and the 74th Infantry Battalion clashed with the rebels in barangay Cagsiay III, Mauban, Quezon, last Wednesday.

Lt Col [Lieutenant Colonel] Rex Piad, Quezon PC-INP [Integrated National Police] commander, in his report to Brig Gen [Brigadier General] Evaristo G. Carino, Recom [Regional Command] 4 PC-INP chief, said that he organized three teams led by Capt [Captain] Marcelo Garbo Jr, 231st PC company commander, one team composed of Army men under Lt Macky Alberto, and the other team led by Lt Benjie Madrigal.

The team of Captain Garbo assaulted the NPA camp with 30 men, while the group of Lieutenant Alberto and Madrigal served as blocking force. When Captain Garbo and his men entered the rebel camp, they were sighted by guards atop a tree and fired at the government troopers.

The firing lasted 35 minutes and the rebels withdrew after hearing the oncoming PAF [Philippine Air Force] helicopter gunships with Col Rex Piad, Capt Raul Castaneda, and Capt Samson Tucay aboard.

The rebels set the camp on fire but only three huts that served as quarters for new recruits were burned. They left behind some documents, including papers on a plan to elect their delegates to a national plenum to be held on Dec 25.

It was gathered that the NPA under "Ka [Comrade] Darmo" and "Ka Feli" were training their recruits of more than 100 trainees when the government troopers arrived. Seized were assorted high-powered firearms, rice, canned goods, assorted medicines, instruments for acupuncture, and manual on acupuncture.

General Carino ordered Piad and Lt Col Edgar Aglipay, Laguna PC-INP commander, to monitor the whereabouts of the rebels.

Piad told Carino that the NPA took advantage of the "Welga ng Bayan [National Strike]" last Wednesday, after learning that officers and men of the regional PC-INP headquarters in Camp Vicente Lim would be pulled out to serve as reserve force in Metro Manila.

Communist Rebels Raids Davao Army Detachment

HK2610121790 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] An Army trooper was killed while eight others were wounded when suspected communist rebels raided a Philippine Army detachment in Sto. Tomas, Davao del Norte this morning. The incident occurred at 0545 this morning, when about 100 New People's Army [NPA] rebels peppered the Bravo Company, 51st Battalion detachment with bullets.

In a spot report sent to Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police Chief Major General Cesar Nazareno, it was learned the rebels were armed with 90 mm recoilless rifles in addition to high-powered assault rifles. Private First Class Rene Salazar was killed, while Lorraine Salazar, Jocelyn Nikamura, and Cely Tura were wounded, and the rest were unidentified.

The fighting, the report stated, lasted for two hours; and none of the rebels were reportedly injured.

Three Reported Killed in Raid

HK2610122390 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 1100 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] New People's Army [NPA] rebels killed three persons in Sto. Tomas, Davao del Norte. The victims were Jesebel Dur, Private First Class Rene Salazar, and an unidentified civilian. Three other soldiers and four civilians were wounded. The soldiers, who were taken, by surprise managed to fight back and engaged the rebels for three hours.

Military Raids NPA Safehouse; Two Arrested

HK2610124390 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog 0900 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Two female New People's Army [NPA] rebels are currently under a thorough tactical interrogation after they were captured by government troops in Pampanga. They are identified as Socorro Perlas y Bago alias Comrade Rose, and Neda, a reported courier of the NPA's Bataan provincial special operations group. [sentence as heard]

According to a report by Regional Command 3, a joint force comprising elements of the Bataan Constabulary command, the 178th PC [Philippine Constabulary], and the Philippine Army's 68th Infantry Battalion headed by Captain Danilo Briones raided a Communist Party of the Philippines-NPA safehouse in Barangay Bangkal, Pugad, Lubao, Pampanga. The raid was launched based on information received stating that elements of the NPA Bataan provincial special operations group headed by a certain Gilbert Dominguez and one alias Bogs, and a Jennifer Reyes Sela alias Nancy who is reportedly the wife of Manolito Valdez, the deputy commander of the NPA's provincial operations group. [sentence as heard] The raid resulted in the arrest of the two female rebels—Bago and Reyes. The raiding party also seized a 12-gauge shotgun, an Icom radio, and subversive documents. The female rebels were brought to the Bataan Constabulary command where they are undergoing a tactical interrogation.

Constabulary Arrests Nine 'Ranking' Communists

HK2710074790 Quezon City Radyo Ng Bayan in Tagalog 0655 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Statement by Colonel Ageric Wagawan, chief of Security Group, Philippine Constabulary-Integrated National Police (PC-INP) in Camp Crame—live; italicized portions in English]

[Text] I would like to inform our listeners that since yesterday, our PC-INP security group, assisted by the Capital Region Command, Metropolitan Field Force, and the Special Action Force, conducted searches on the safehouses of suspected communist members. *And as a result of these simultaneous raids that we have conducted, we have apprehended nine ranking members of the national organization commission as well as members of the regional united front bureau of the Manila-Rizal regional party committee. Foremost among these personalities that we have arrested is one Mr. Rufino Aguinaldo alias Kito who, from the evidence that we have gathered, is the political officer of the military secretariat of the national operation commission.*

I wish to inform our listeners that the national organization commission is a branch of the Communist Party of the Philippines central committee that plans and orchestrates all of the bombing incidents and terroristic activities which have occurred, especially during the recent strike against the nation.

We have documents to show that under this national organization commission are the national trade union bureau, the national youth and student department, the national government employees bureau, and national women's bureau and others. Under the national trade union's bureau, we have also uncovered that they have their own self-defense units and insurrectionary forces which they use against our police who prevent their moves, *and these insurrectionary forces also are the ones that are used to conduct sabotage, bombing incidents, and burning of these transportation units that had happened. And so, we believe that as a result of these operations that we have conducted, and I would also like to report that* included in the things we seized are 50 dynamite sticks, nine pieces of plastic bombs and 19 pieces of dynamite. We presented all these to our friends in the media. We confiscated these from the nine people we arrested.

These explosives that we have gathered is enough to toss and with the apprehension of these explosives, we believe that we have foiled their planned activities at least for the month of October.

Of the documents that we seized were lists of departments or establishments, *government as well as private buildings, that were targetted for bombings and sabotage by this group. And so, I would like to report that maybe with this accomplishment, we have partially crippled whatever are their plans in the succeeding days to come.* That's all I can report as of now. Thank you.

'More' NPA Rebels Arrested

HK2910055990 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 29 Oct 90 pp 1, 25

[By Wilma Yamzon]

[Excerpts] Two more members of the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army (CPP-NPA) were arrested in a followup raid by Constabulary agents in Quezon City over the weekend, the PC [Philippine Constabulary] announced yesterday.

This developed as the military claimed that the spate of violence in "Welga ng Bayan [National Strike]" last week was part of a communist plot to induce the ultra-rightist force to launch another coup.

Arrested were Ramoncito Garcia, a CPP-NPA regular member and another alleged NPA "runner" who was not identified, pending investigation.

The two suspects were nabbed by the Constabulary Security Group (CSG) led by 1st Lt. [Lieutenant] Romano Felix at a suspected underground safehouse in Munoz, QC [Quezon City]. They were taken to the CSG headquarters at Camp Crame for tactical interrogation.

Last Friday, nine suspected communist leaders were captured by police and Constabulary troopers in a series of raids on six underground safehouses in Metro Manila.

All of those arrested were allegedly members of the National Operations Commission (NOC) of the Manila-Rizal Regional Committee (MRRC), Col. [Colonel] Agerico Kagaoan, CSG chief, said. Kagaoan said an analysis of documents captured by the PC from rebel suspects revealed that the Military Secretariat of the NOC was responsible for the assassination in 1988 of retired Col. Umberto Moran, security chief of the Far Eastern University (FEU) in Manila.

Moran was leaving the FEU campus on board his car when unidentified armed men blocked his path and fired at him, killing him on the spot. Although the NPA claimed responsibility for the attack, the case has remained unsolved. [passage omitted]

He said another information revealed in the seized documents was a listing of target areas for bombing attacks by combat forces of the NOC which would complement the mass actions in connection with the "Welga ng Bayan."

The list, he added, outlined the personnel, logistics, specific targets, tactics, and deployment of forces by the NOC.

'Communist Guerrillas' Bomb Samar Radio Station

HK2810030290 Hong Kong AFP in English 0215 GMT 28 Oct 90

[Text] Catarman, Philippines, Oct 28 (AFP) - Communist guerrillas Sunday bombed a radio station here in the eastern island of Samar, causing extensive damage, a member of the staff said.

A grenade was thrown into the lobby of the private radio station DYSM, destroying the announcer's booth and damaging the room of the manager. There were no casualties, said Eddie Balanon, a technician at the station.

Catarman police said the grenade-thrower was a member of the communist New People's Army (NPA), the armed wing of the banned Communist Party of the Philippines which has been fighting the government for 21 years.

The NPA also fired three mortar rounds into an army detachment near Pambujan town east of here Sunday, but there were no reports of casualties, Army spokesmen said.

Muslim Commander, Rebels Surrender in Cotabato

HK2610055990 Manila DIYARYO FILIPINO in Tagalog 26 Oct 90 p 8

[By Fidel Jimenez]

[Text] A Moro Islamic Liberation Front brigade commander, his seven field commanders, and 68 men, surrendered to the military in Parang, Cotabato, last Wednesday. Reports received at Camp Aguinaldo identify the rebel leader as Commander Buging Bundit. Brigadier General Oswaldo Villanueva, chief of the army's 6th Infantry Division, said the rebels also surrendered high-powered weapons.

Bundit's group operated in the towns of Midsayap, Almada, Bundon, Libungan, and Pigkawalan, which are all under Haslim Salamat. Villanueva added that Bundit had been a rebel for 20 years, starting as a Blackshirt in 1970. He held the rank of brigade commander on the Cotabato Revolutionary Committee when he, together with his men, decided to return to the fold of the law.

Thailand

Chatchai, Nguyen Co Thach Discuss Cambodia

BK2910134090 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 29 Oct 90

[Text] Nguyen Co Thach, Vietnamese deputy prime minister and foreign minister, paid a courtesy call on Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan at Government House this morning. A Public Relations Department correspondent reports on the results of the meeting:

[Correspondent] During the meeting, the leaders of the two countries discussed ways to achieve peace in Cambodia. The Thai prime minister informed the Vietnamese deputy prime minister that Thailand has made efforts to enable the Cambodian leaders to meet and has also supported the establishment of the Supreme National Council, or SNC, of Cambodia. The prime minister said that further steps toward peace in Cambodia should be a matter for the Cambodians themselves to work out. In addition, the two leaders discussed the development of relations between Thailand and Vietnam. Suwit Yotmani, spokesman of the Prime Minister's Office, briefed reporters as follows:

[Begin Suwit recording, in progress] The two sides agreed that this is a good idea and it is in line with the prime minister's opinion of turning the Cambodian battlefield into a marketplace, meaning having all countries in the region cooperate. The third point discussed was bilateral relations between Thailand and Vietnam. The Vietnamese deputy prime minister stated that he wanted to see the development of relations between the two countries. The prime minister agreed with this in principle. The Vietnamese side wants its prime minister to meet with the Thai prime minister at any venue for discussions on ways to develop relations between Thailand and Vietnam. [end recording]

[Correspondent] The spokesman of the Prime Minister's Office said further that the Vietnamese deputy prime minister has stated that Vietnam has ended its duty in Cambodia, adding that Vietnam will not be a tool of Cambodia; nor will Vietnam interfere with Cambodia. It wants the Cambodians to determine their own fate. However, if the Cambodian problem cannot be settled, both Vietnam and Thailand will continue to be affected by fighting in Cambodia. So, the Cambodians should intensify their efforts to achieve peace in Cambodia as soon as possible.

Foreign Minister Meets PRC Envoy on Cambodia

BK2610135590 Bangkok ZHONG HUA RIBAO in Chinese 26 Oct 90 p 4

[Text] Chinese Ambassador Li Shichun called on Foreign Minister Subin Pinkhayan at the Foreign Ministry yesterday morning to discuss Subin's upcoming visit to China and the progress made by the Supreme National Council [SNC] on solving the Cambodian problem.

Subin told reporters after his meeting with the Chinese ambassador that he had told the Chinese envoy about the failure of the meeting of the four Cambodian factions in Bangkok last month. Subin also told the ambassador that Thailand would agree to host another meeting of the four factions in Bangkok only after they reach an agreement on the chairmanship of the SNC and the number of its representatives.

He said that the international community has now shown clear steps toward solving the Cambodian problem. For example, Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas has said that the Paris conference on Cambodia will open soon. Subin will also discuss this issue with Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach when the latter visits Thailand from 27 to 30 October. However, Subin said that until now, the four Cambodian factions had not asked Thailand to host another meeting.

Subin said that he would visit various countries in November to strengthen bilateral relations and economic, trade, and investment cooperation—China from 3 to 5 November, Japan from 8 to 14 November, and Laos from 18 to 19 November. He will also discuss regional issues with those countries. In particular, he will hold talks with China concerning the Cambodian issue, the purchase of crude oil and cement from China, and the sale of rice to China.

Logging Firm Given Exemption on Khmer Imports

BK2910084690 Bangkok THE NATION in English 29 Oct 90 p A2

[Text] Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan has acceded to a logging company's demand to be allowed to import Cambodian timber through a new checkpoint in Chanthaburi without certificates of origin, a Commerce Ministry source said yesterday.

The proposal is expected to be considered by the Cabinet tomorrow. However, the source said, the Cabinet would only "acknowledge" the proposal because the premier's approval was final. The source said Ruam Thana Thai

Co Ltd would be allowed to import Cambodian timber through the checkpoint on the Thai-Cambodian border at Ban Suan Som of Soi Dao subdistrict after the Cabinet acknowledges the premier's decision.

Ruam Thana Thai is one of five companies which have inked contracts with the Khmer Rouge and the noncommunist Khmer Peoples National Liberation Front (KPNLF) to fell trees in areas held by the guerrilla forces and import the hardwood logs through border passes. The other Thai concessionaires known to have concluded similar contracts are Panathai Co Ltd, Panthong Co Ltd, So Thianthong Co Ltd, and Eastern Cement Co Ltd.

Ruam Thana Thai had reportedly failed to declare certificates of origin to Thai authorities and was not allowed to import Cambodian timber although it was granted a three-year import permit last November, the source said. The proposal to exempt Ruam Thana Thai from the certificate of origin requirement had been widely discussed by the government agencies concerned. The National Security Council (NSC) and the Commerce and Agriculture ministries agreed to the proposal, while the Finance, Foreign and Interior ministries wanted to maintain strict control over log imports, the source said.

The Cabinet granted a similar exemption last year when it allowed Cambodian timber without certificates of origin to be imported through a border pass in Trat's Khlong Yai district. The Cabinet imposed a nationwide logging ban last year, which means foreign timber is needed to meet domestic demands. Without certificates, it is feared that Thai border trees could be felled and claims made that the logs are imported. The Chatchai 1 Cabinet had postponed a decision on Ruam Thana's proposal demanding certificate exemption. Foreign Minister Subin Pinkhayan made the proposal when he was commerce minister, said the source.

Ruam Thana Thai started logging in its concession some six months ago but has not been able to bring the logs to Thailand because the Khmer Rouge commander in charge of the zone was reprimanded by his leaders for failing to obtain advance permission from the organization. However, the problem on the part of the Khmer Rouge was recently solved and the logs are expected to be hauled to the Thai border very soon.

Ruam Thana Thai has complained that Phnom Penh has not delegated authority to anybody to issue certificates of origin due to the ongoing political conflict in Cambodia. Officials from the Agriculture and Interior ministries on March 19 this year endorsed a similar call for relaxation of the certificate rule.

Papers on Moves Against Chatchai Government

BK2610145290

[Editorial Report] Two Thai-language dailies, THAI RAT and SIAM RAT, on 25 October carry a column and an editorial, respectively, commenting on the current movements by students and other groups of people against the Government under the leadership of Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan.

THAI RAT's 1,000-word column by Pleo Singoen on page five entitled "Driven Crazy by Current Moves Indeed," asks if the police's operations in arresting students for alleged involvement in the so-called "revolutionary council" are carried out either on the instruction of the prime minister or the Interior Ministry.

The writer says the recent student protest against the Government, which resulted in the death of a Ramkhamhaeng University student who committed self-immolation, was manipulated by the revolutionary council. The writer says police should have handled the case much better and would not have blown up a little issue into a big one had they really understood the people's political thinking level. He points out that police have not seriously followed up the issue from the beginning. Otherwise, the student's self-immolation would not not occurred and police should have been able to arrest two senior members of the revolutionary council—Prasoet Sapsunthon and Rainan Arunrangsi.

The column concludes: "The revolutionary council is a very small issue but a big joke. People regard the council as the jokers and have never taken their actions seriously. Why have the government and the police taken the actions of the crazy people seriously? The strong government and police reactions make one wonder who the crazy people really are."

SIAM RAT's 500-word editorial on page eight entitled: "Must Quickly Prove the Existing Democratic System," says that the government is being vigorously attacked by students and other groups of people. It is believed that the student movement is led by a group of Ramkhamhaeng University students.

It says that while the students carry out protests, a democratic movement group, which has been organized as a party, has charged that there are "political profiteers" among the administrators of the country and these people lead to corruption. The democratic movement group therefore calls for "a reform mechanism for democracy in order to prevent using money to buy political posts and power." They propose that the legislative and executive powers be completely separated. It means that a member of parliament cannot become minister or prime minister. The prime minister must be directly elected in the same way as in the presidential election in the United States. The prime minister has right to form his own cabinet, which does not have to include members of parliament.

The student movement and the new democratic movement have therefore indirectly become "political alliances" and no one knows how close their relationship is. Many people, however, are curious to see if the new system is good.

The paper says: "We believe that the existing democratic system is sufficiently good and suitable for the Thai-style society of which the king is leader. Therefore, there is no need to make any change. The only thing to do is to seriously correct any mistakes, if there are any. We feel that the latest reshuffle of the cabinet was too inadequate to correct the image of the government. There still are several ministers whose actions are regarded by the public as unsuitable to their posts, although there is no evidence to prove that they are corrupt.

"The prime minister must decisively wipe out all such people in order to prove that our existing democratic system still works and there is no need to introduce a new system," concludes the editorial.

Paper Views Prospects of Chawalit's New Party

BK2910084490 Bangkok THE NATION in English 29 Oct 90 p A9

[Editorial: "The Selling of Chawalit"]

[Text] Prime Minister Gen [General] Chatchai Chunhawan has indicated that he doesn't want a second term as premier. In fact, at times he reportedly has given serious thought to calling it quits after his first two years in office and handing over the post to someone capable of succeeding him. But he has not been able to find anyone acceptable to all parties and the military.

So he has to hang in there and, perhaps, tough it out for at least another year. But it would be too premature to dream about Chatchai completing his four-year term as his administration will face tremendous divisive pressures next year, especially when Parliament reconvenes early next May.

Recently the premier said he would like to see Interior Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha lead a new generation of Chat Thai politicians after he is out of the political picture. But Banhan, who is secretary general of the core government party, was quick to deny that he has any ambition of "reaching for the stars" and becoming the next premier.

Banhan apparently knows he has antagonized too many of the powers-that-be during his meteoric rise from an obscure Suphan Buri provincial assemblyman to powerhouse in the Chat Thai Party in less than 15 years. It is an open secret that his rivals in the party would like to see him "kicked upstairs" to the post of deputy premier. This was why Banhan, who controls more than half of the party's 96 MPs, sought and received Premier Chatchai's pledge early this month not to remove him from the Interior Ministry without his prior knowledge and consent.

Industry Minister Praman Adireksan is known to harbour the ambition of being premier, but he lacks support. Banhan, for one, doesn't seem to entertain the idea of replacing Premier Chatchai with Praman who is 77 years old. Praman was the first party leader, relinquishing the post in 1984 to Chatchai, whom Banhan strongly backed. The swap of ministerial posts between Praman and Banhan early this year was widely seen as a move by the Chatchai-Banhan faction to weaken Praman's clique, which from time to time still demands Premier Chatchai's resignation to give Praman, who happens to be his brother-in-law, the chance to gain the premiership.

Premier Chatchai's wooing of ex-army chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, by appointing him deputy premier and defence minister—and naming him his "political successor"—after Chawalit stepped down from the military early this year, was another calculated move to stop Praman and at the same time keep Chawalit on the side of the Chatchai-Banhan faction. This scheme failed when Chawalit, after less than three months in the Chatchai administration, resigned when he saw no real chance of actually succeeding Premier Chatchai within a reasonable time frame.

Now Chawalit is leader of a new party, reportedly to be called "New Aspiration Party" in English. He has placed full-page advertisements in several newspapers urging people to join his party to help develop the Thai political system "to perfection." The advertising is part of his campaign to recruit up to—believe it or not—two million party members. But Chawalit is dead serious about this goal. He has actively been on the road promoting his new party and raising "new hopes" among his audiences.

On Saturday in Khon Kaen, Chawalit told a large group of teachers he wants, and will be, the 18th—the next—premier of Thailand because he is confident his party will win at least 200 seats in the House in the next general election, whenever it is held in the next two years. This bold statement, we suspect, was aimed more for the consumption of the press than anything else. The press has heard Chawalit ponder on all of the major problems facing the country and criticize the Chatchai administration for leaving them unresolved for too long. What he has to say about these same old topics, however, no longer makes news.

But his prediction of winning 200 seats caught the attention of many reporters following Chawalit around. What makes him so confident? How will his party candidates make such a sweep in the next general election without them having to buy votes?

Maybe Chawalit is counting on the two million people his party is trying recruit. Assuming that the party has two million members, can each of these two million convince five to ten voters to elect their party candidates without bribing any of them? (There will be more than 30 million eligible voters.) This is a tough question. The only possibility is to persuade voters who take money from other candidates to vote for Chawalit's party. But will these voters risk their well-being, perhaps their very lives, just to help Chawalit? Another tough question.

For the time being, the toughest question Chawalit is facing is how to find two million Thais who have enough interest in politics to join a political party, let alone buy Chawalit's promises of "new hopes."

After all, the oldest existing party, the Democrats, has atracted less than 200,000 members after more than 40 years on the hustings. Maybe the Democrats should take out full-page newspaper advertising like Chawalit's party.

Prospects for Successful Reshuffle Analyzed

BK2810034890 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Oct 90 p 3

["Weekend Analysis" by Banyat Thatsaniyawet]

[Text] Major political problems are swamping Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan, from the impending Cabinet reshuffle, in which it would be hard to please everyone, to preparations to defend against the Opposition attempt to open an extra session of Parliament. Gen [General] Chatchai said he likes to defuse bombs but these two explosive issues will not be easy to handle.

There have been reports that after he returned from his official visit to Britain and Switzerland last Tuesday, the Prime Minister consulted with the leaders of the three armed forces about a Cabinet reshuffle during their weekly breakfast meeting on Wednesday. After the breakfast, Air Force Commander-in-Chief (ACM) Kaset Rotchananin told the Press that the Premier has asked them how the reshuffle could improve the image of the Government. The Air Force commander said that Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Suchinda Khraprayun said the time was right for a reshuffle.

ACM Kaset did not say what Gen Suchinda had said about individual ministers, but before Gen Chatchai went overseas, the Armed Forces chiefs at another breakfast meeting reportedly "advised" the Premier to get rid of three ministers who had been involved in scandals—Interior Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha, Communications Minister Montri Phongphanit and PM's [Prime Minister] Office Minister Chaloem Yubamrung.

Last Wednesday, ACM Kaset said: "Soldiers will not get involved in politics. If the Cabinet reshuffle improves people's lives and the stability of the Government we would be satisfied. But if there are problems after the reshuffle we will have to talk." Political observers pointed out that this was the first time a key member of the military has admitted that "advice" has been given to the Government about a Cabinet reshuffle, the advice being that the reshuffle will have to improve the image of the Government and who should be ousted has already been decided by public opinion. Prior to this, Gen Suchinda would only say that "soldiers will not get involved in politics and will support the Government". Later he said, "Soldiers will support the Government, but the Government will have to behave well. If it does not the people will not go along and the military will not be able to help."

It is of note that since the conflict in the media between Mr Chaloem and Mr Banhan over the 40,000-million-baht sky train project, the Police Department reshuffle and the quarrel between Banhan and Mr Montri over the 150-billion-baht telephone expansion project, the military has begun to feel justified in getting involved in politics. The military also caught on to the feeling of the people and presented it as part of their "advice" to the Premier for a refhuffle; that is, to get rid of the three ministers to "improve the image of the Government".

But all three ministers are key figures who could make trouble. Like time bombs, if they are not defused, all that can be done is to wait for them to blow up. If attempts are made to defuse them, they might still blow up if handled the wrong way. If Mr Banhan, Chat Thai Party's secretary-general, is ousted from the Interior Ministry, the party would become embroiled in a major conflict since he controls the largest faction in the party, larger even than the combined factions of Police Gen Praman and Gen Chatchai. At the height of the severest attack against him, the combative Interior Minister was faced with calls within his party to decrease his power and to kick him upstairs to Deputy Prime Minister.

But now those MPs realise that their demand will not meet with success. Talk of a reshuffle of Chat Thai ministers now focuses instead on deputy ministers who have been in office for two years but with little to show for their efforts. There is pressure to replace them with senior party MPs. It is difficult to see how this could be done because Chat Thai is made up of a complex web of cliques, groups and factions. It is difficult for there to be changes that will not anger at least one of the factions.

As for the Social Action Party, though having fewer factions, its power is concentrated solely in secretary-general Montri, with party leader M.R. Khukrit Pramot also holding the steering wheel. It would be difficult to oust Mr Montri from the Communications Ministry. M.R. Khukrit has also announced that his party is satisfied with all its ministers and there was no need for a change. If the Premier wants a reshuffle he would have to explain why it is necessary to do it so often, they said.

Ousting Muan Chon Party leader Chaloem Yubamrung would also be very dangerous because he has a lot of information with which to strike back at enemies, old or new. All this shows that it's very difficult to defuse the bombs but it is even more risky to ignore them. Observers feel that it the Prime Minister cannot reshuffle the Cabinet or if there are still problems after a change that upset the military then it would be cause for senators to help the Opposition to reopen Parliament for a special session.

The Upper House is dominated by the military, and senators have been saying they are willing to sign the motion if the Opposition gets all of its 111 MPs to sign it. MP's Office Minister Bun-ua Prasoetsuwan, chairman of the coalition government coordinating committee, has scheduled a meeting at the end of this month to discuss whether the time is right for a special session. Thus, there is a good chance that the Government would cite article 153 of the Constitution to reopen Parliament. If it waits for the Opposition to reopen the House, it would face a censure debate and vote, but if it reopens the House first it would be able to defend itself before the Opposition has a go at it, and would escape a vote.

Student Leader Arrested for Inciting Unrest

BK2810023090 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 28 Oct 90 p 2

[Text] Nakhon Si Thammarat—Another student leader of protests against Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan's government was arrested here yesterday. Police arrested Chaiyong Rattanawan at the home of provincial councillor Ruang Ketkaeo in Thung Song District. The councillor has joined the anti-government movement here. Chaiyong was one of nine Ramkhamhaeng University students who shaved their heads in protest against the Government.

The court has revoked the bail of Chaiyong, who threatened to set himself on fire at a community hall in Muang District here yesterday afternoon. He is being held at the Police School in Bang Khen District in Bangkok. He was among 20 people arrested on charges of inciting unrest in the capital in April.

Eleventh police subdivision commander Phichai Sunthonsatchaban said there would be no more violence here now that Chaiyong has been arrested. He said the Police Department had ordered him to arrest Chaiyong.

Mr. Ruang, addressing about 4,000 people at the railway station in Muang District yesterday, called for the unconditional release of all students and anti-government protesters arrested in Bangkok recently. The councillor called on Gen [General] Chatchai to resign or he said he would continue to attack the Government and hold rallies throughout the South.

Rubber Planters Federation of Thailand vice-president Sutthikiat Dokmaihom, secretary Kittisit Saranit and members attended the rally at the railway station in support of Mr Ruang's demands. Four other provincial councillors, including ex-provincial council chairman Somphon Siphet, also attended.

Meanwhile, Central Investigation Bureau deputy commissioner Kasem Saengmit yesterday dismissed reports that police believe "Revolutionary Council" leader Prasoet Sapsunthon is hiding from police at the house of a senior military officer in Bangkok. Bangkok is too big for police to track down suspects quickly, Maj-Gen [Major General] Kasem said, but Prasoet is not a dangerous criminal who must be arrested as soon as possible.

The court revoked bail for Prasoet, an ex-cadre of the Communist Party of Thailand, following an anti-government rally at Ramkhamhaeng University earlier this month at which Thanawut Khlingchua burned himself to death. Prasoet is suspected of master-minding the protest.

National Intelligence Agency Discusses Changes

BK2910113390 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 27 Oct 90 p 16

[Text] The National Intelligence Agency [NIA] board held a meeting at Government House on 25 October under the chairmanship of Deputy Prime Minister General Athit Kamlang-ek.

Police General Manat Khrutchaiyan, deputy director general of the Police Department and a committee member of the NIA, told reporters after the meeting that ways of improving the efficiency of this agency were discussed during the meeting because its personnel and equipment had not achieved adequate development in the past.

Police General Manat said that the agency has a limited budget because it can only request allocations from a central fund. "Nowadays, the senior officials attach more importance to this agency, so the agency is expected to change for the better," he said. Asked whether or not the NIA reports all intelligence news directly to General Athit, Police General Manat replied in the affirmative, adding that news on moves affecting the government also goes directly to General Athit.

French, Swiss Interested in Investing in SET

BK2710080490 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Oct 90 p 20

[Excerpt] French and Swiss are interested in investing in the Securities Exchange of Thailand (SET), according to SET president Maruai Phaoungsit. He presented an introduction to the SET at the World Financial Market Conference in France this week. Thailand was only the participant invited from Asia. Fund managers and bankers were invited to the conference. Maruai said most of them are interested in investing in the SET because Thailand's economic growth rate is strong and share prices are very cheap.

During his trip, he was asked why the Thai stock market had recorded the heaviest global plunge outside Taiwan. "I told them that if the Gulf crisis had not happened the SET would have to have reduced with a major correction because the SET index had increased too much," he said. [passage omitted]

SET Board To Decide on Resignation Outcome

BK2710083090 Bangkok THE NATION in English 27 Oct 90 p B1

[Text] Dr Maruai Phadungsit, the president of the securities exchange of Thailand, displayed a sense of bullishness when he said that his resignation last week from the exchange was based on an act of principle and the outcome would depend on the final decision of its board of directors.

His comment was made at Don Muang Airport early yesterday morning as he was clearing the customs after arriving home from a trip to Paris and Geneva. He was mobbed by a throng of reporters wanting to know Maruai's current thinking about his resignation and his future at the exchange.

Maruai has posed a riddle for the securities community to think about when he confessed to THE NATION before leaving for Paris to attend the World Finance Market Conference, that he had tendered his resignation to the exchange chairman, Dr Aran Thammano, by saying that he had done most of the job required at the exchange and that it was time for him to go. Yet it is generally understood that Maruai's decision to depart from the exchange grew out of a personal conflict with Niphat Phukkanasut, director-general of the Fiscal Policy Office (FPO) which directly oversees and supervises the regulatory and bureaucratic procedures of the exchange. Newspapers have reported that communications and work-flows between the exchange and the Finance Ministry's FPO have been seriously affected since Niphat's takeover as chief of the agency in October.

Maruai, with his perpetually gentle smile which has been his trademark even during the gloomiest times of the bear market, said his resignation was based on principle, but if the exchange's board wants him to continue as president then he would be obliged to do so. Maruai, who came to the exchange in 1985, explained that when the board decided to extend his tenure by another two years until December, 1991, he was assigned to complete two major tasks: supervising the smooth transition of the exchange from a manual trading system to be wholly-computerized and overseeing the plan to acquire new premises for the stock market.

He said both tasks are well ahead of schedule because computerized stock trading will officially kick off on Feb 1 next year, and Mongkhon Kanchanaphat's Saha Bangkok Pattana Co has been picked to undertake the construction of the exchange's new premise in the Rachadaphisek area with a total investment of about Bt [baht] 400 million. The premise is due for completion in the next two years.

Evidence of policy confict between the exchange and the Fiscal Policy Office emerged when the latter made it clear that companies wishing to get securities exchange listing will have to receive prior approval from the Finance Ministry before a public share offering is allowed to be made. This policy runs counter to that of the exchange, which has been maintaining that applicants for listing will have to divest 30 per cent of their shares to the public as a precondition before the exchange goes ahead and considers their listing status.

Maruai incidently met Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan in Geneva during his European trip and during a brief conversation, the latter asked Maruai to continue serving the exchange until his term expires. "I have asked Khun Maruai to stay on and he has accepted the offer," the prime minister said yesterday, while denying that there is a conflict between the exchange and the Fiscal Policy Office. Maruai also denied that he is not on speaking terms with Niphat, who is supposed to succeed Aran as the exchange chairman once Aran's term expires. "I and Khun Niphat know each other pretty well. We do not share any conflicting ideas." Maruai said.

In Geneva, Maruai was invited by DG Bank of Switzerland to meet and talk to institutional investors there, who have shown interest in investing in the Thai equity market although some wanted to know why it overreacted to the Gulf crisis by shedding more than 40 per cent of its value.

Delegation To Attend ASEAN Meeting in Bali

BK2910052890 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 29 Oct 90

[Text] Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on will lead a Thai delegation comprised of representatives from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs; Commerce; Industry; Finance; Agriculture and Cooperatives; and Science, Technology and Energy to participate in the 22d ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting in Bali, Indonesia, from 29-30 October. The major topics of discussion in the meeting will include the progress of operations carried out by the ASEAN economic committee in the past year, such as cooperation in trade and tourism; industry; minerals and energy; transportation and communications; food and forestry; and finance and banking.

The ASEAN economic ministers will also discuss the improvement of methods and the mechanism for more efficient economic cooperation among the ASEAN countries in order to conform with the changing international situation; the ASEAN stand toward the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations; problems concerning consumers' goods trading; and improvement of economic cooperation with their discussion partners. Moreover, the ASEAN economic ministers will also hold talks with U.S. trade representatives on 30 October to set a framework for future economic ties between the ASEAN and the United States.

Minister Reports Rice Sales to USSR, Senegal

BK2710085890 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] The cabinet has approved sale of rice to the Soviet Union on credit terms in order to move rice out of stock before this season's rice comes into the market so that farmers will fetch a better price for their product. Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on says:

[Begin Amaret recording] The Commerce Ministry has agreed to sell rice to the Soviet Union at $273.50 [per ton] on a two-year credit term with an interest rate of four percent. This sale of 200,000 tons will enable us to move rice out of local stocks. The sale price does not represent a loss. It is necessary to sell on credit terms because the Soviet Union cited necessity for purchase on credit. The cabinet has already approved this credit sale. It will compensate the difference in interest rates involved in this sale to the Soviet Union. The cabinet members agreed that it was necessary to push this large amount of rice abroad as the new season crop is coming into the market. The loss incurred by the difference in interest rates, earlier expected at 300 million baht, has been reduced considerably because the Bank of Thailand and the Krung Thai Bank have given a special loan interest rate of between 10-12 percent. [end recording]

The Commerce Ministry also agreed to sell about 50,000 tons of broken rice to Senegal. Amaret says:

[Begin Amaret recording] The Foreign Trade Department has agreed to sell 25,000 tons of broken rice to Senegal, to be delivered in November. An informal agreement has also been reached to sell another 25,000 tons for delivery in January. The buyer has to confirm this purchase in December. We do not expect any problem in confirmation from Senegal of this lot, as Senegal has always been our good customer. This means we will be able to sell another 50,000 tons of rice this year. [end recording]

Interior Minister Receives U.S. DEA Head

BK2710092090 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] After receiving Bonner, the head of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration [DEA], for official consultations and narcotics suppression cooperation, Interior Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha disclosed to newsmen that the United States wanted to help Thailand to eliminate the narcotics problem by providing funds for purchase of suppression equipment and cooperation against the transit of narcotics. The interior minister and party, including the Interior Ministry permanent secretary, will visit the United States to observe narcotics suppression in mid-November.

[Begin Banhan recording] I don't think the problem is that great, providing that we have sufficient vehicles, suppression equipment and personnel. The important thing is that the suppression efforts must be earnest and that we know the real source of narcotics. [end recording]

Iranian President's Advisor Arrives for Meetings

BK2510163990 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1200 GMT 25 Oct 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Subin Pinkhayan told reporters about the outcome of his meeting this morning with Ali Reza Mo'ayeri, adviser to the Iranian president for foreign affairs. He said that both sides discussed about Thai-Iranian relations and cooperation. The Iranian side is satisfied with the good trade relations and cooperation between the two countries. In particular, the Thai side asked Iran to extend the oil purchase agreement that is due to expire at the end of this year and asked Iran to increase the quantity of oil supplied to Thailand in order to make up for the shortage of supply from Iraq and Kuwait, which amounts to about 60,000 barrels per day. The adviser to the Iranian president accepted this proposal for consideration. Further details will be discussed later. Thailand has recently bought more oil from other ASEAN countries, such as Malaysia and Brunei.

The foreign minister said that besides the oil issue, both sides discussed the selling of Thai rice to Iran, which amounts to about 500,000 to 600,000 metric tons. Iran used to buy rice directly from the Thai Government. But now it buys rice from traders.

Regarding investment, the foreign minister said that we had invited Iran to invest in the southern seaboard development program, such as refinery and oil transportation business. The adviser to the Iranian president paid attention to these projects. In addition, both sides discussed the Persian Gulf situation and solutions to the problem.

Discusses Antidrug Cooperation

BK2510164690 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 25 Oct 90

[Text] Interior Minister Banhan Sinlapa-acha today met Ali Reza Mo'ayeri, adviser to the Iranian president. Both officials discussed trade and narcotics suppression cooperation. The Iranian side said that Iran was interested in Thailand's narcotics suppression and would like to send its officials to exchange views with Thai officials. Banhan told the Iranian side that Thailand had seriously carried out narcotics suppression. In September, the prime minister ordered the establishment of the Narcotics Suppression Headquarters with Police Lieutenant General Kowit Phuphanit as commander of the headquarters. This will result in a more unified suppression operation.

In addition, the interior minister said that to suppress narcotics effectively, it needs cooperation among countries, especially from the United States, to help eradicate narcotics trafficking routes from one country to another.

Received by Prime Minister

BK2610142290 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Prime Minister General Chatchai Chunhawan received Mo'ayeri, Iranian presidential adviser, and his delegation at Government House this morning. The Iranian delegation is on a visit to Thailand to strengthen the good relations between Thailand and Iran. On the occasion, the prime minister asked Iran to invest in the oil refinery on Thailand's southern seaboard. The Iranian presidential adviser expressed interest in this business.

Burmese Stage Rally at Embassy in Bangkok

BK2510160290 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 25 Oct 90

[Text] Over a hundred Burmese monks and students rallied in front of the Burmese Embassy in Thailand at noon today to protest the persecution of Burmese monks, political dissidents, and civilians by the Burmese military junta led by General Saw Maung. The demonstrators also demanded freedom for political prisoners in Burma.

A student group calling itself the Organization of Overseas Burmese Students said the rally was being organized in coordination with activities simultaneously planned in several places, including Hong Kong, Japan, Australia, and Washington D.C., by the Organization of Asian Students. The rally came after the Burmese military government sent troops to storm more than 130 monasteries in Mandalay, and arrested dozens of monks for their anti-government activities— the monks refused to perform ceremonies for soldiers and their families in protest against the killing of two Buddhist monks two months ago.

The demonstrators distributed leaflets calling upon the Burmese military government to stop persecuting monks, students, and civilians; to free leading political prisoners, including Aung San Suu Kyi; and to transfer power to the NLD, which won in the elections but was barred from having a role in the administration. The group also denied being involved in the bombing of the Burmese Embassy last week.

More than 20 monks took part in today's demonstration. They traveled since last night from monasteries on the Thai-Burmese border near Sankha Buri District, Kanchanaburi Province. They said Burma can never attain peace under the military government, which continues purging, persecuting, and arresting the people and even the monks.

The rally lasted for about an hour. The demonstrators dispersed in peace. They displayed and then placed on the wall of the embassy anti-government posters. The posters also call on the junta to return power to the people. The monks also meditated and prayed for the persecuted monks in Burma.

Need for Reevaluation of Burma Policy Examined

BK2910034790 Bangkok THE NATION in English 29 Oct 90 p A9

[Article by Kawi Chongkitthawon: "Time for a Rethink About Burma"]

[Text] In a Buddhist country such as Burma, when Buddhist monks become the subject of political harassment by the authorities, something is very wrong. In the past week, the State Law and Order Restoration Council (Slorc) raided Mandalay's Buddhist monasteries and ransacked offices of the National League for Democracy (NLD), the country's largest political party, and the New Society for Democracy Party, in its toughest crackdown since May.

A number of monks, students and activists were arrested as the systematic crackdown of the pro-democracy movement continues unabated. Since the government began its crackdown in 1988 under the pretext of maintaining "law and order", the Thai government, with the key backing of the Thai military, has given strong support and legitimacy to the Burmese junta under the leadership of Gen [General] Saw Maung in complete ignorance of the "democracy forces" inside the country.

This, particularly after the landslide victory of the NLD in the May election when the government's candidates were completely routed. The NLD captured 396 of the total 495 seats in the People's Assembly. Exactly five months have elapsed and the Burmese military junta still shows no sign of giving up the power it wields through the barrel of the gun to enable the NLD to set up a new democratic government. The junta has said that a new constitution must be approved by the military and that the new government must be a strong one before it will transfer power. Instead, the military continues its raids on the opposition and has opened up a new target in its actions to keep what it calls a semblance of stability in the country—several revered Buddhist monks have been arrested for "instigation and attempts to overthrow the government".

Earlier, the monks refused religious ceremonies for the military which had upset them. In Thailand, if such a thing happened, it would be a national disgrace. The attack on the Buddhist clergy is the most visible indicator of how the military strongmen in Rangoon have treated their people and spiritual leaders. It is very clear the current government is attempting a whitewash.

To convince the public of the need for such an atrocity, the military has resurrected the spectre of the Burmese Communist Party (BCP) and accused the monks and the NLD of coercing with a party that is powerless and which has been in a shambles since the breakaway of certain young factions who rebelled against the old standing order. According to the latest report of Asia Watch, a human rights organization, more than 10,000 people have been arrested since August, 1988, together with a number of reported cases of students being tortured and imprisoned. Slorc's iron fist still dominates the country through martial law, forbidding any meeting of more than four people.

What should Thailand do in response to this increased suppression of democratic expression of its neighbour? Should our officials act dumb and just wait? For what? More suppression? If the Thai leadership really cares, there are some things that Thailand can do. Firstly, it is about time that the Thai authorities concerned, especially the security officials and military circles, review the current policy toward Burma and whether the status quo makes sense at all. Thailand has turned a blind eye to the human rights violations committed by the junta because it is attempting to use Burma as a tool for its own economic interest.

When Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut was a Cabinet member in the Chatchai government, serving as a deputy prime minister, he was the lynchpin of Thailand's policy on Burma. Thailand cooperated with Burma in pushing Burmese refugees, mainly students who sought sanctuary in our territory after the military so brutally quashed the demonstrations, back across the border. Even though he is now an outsider, Chawalit remains a significant and influential figure as far as the current Burmese leadership is concerned. It came as no surprise that recently Chawalit told reporters that he would visit Rangoon and urge Gen Saw Maung to release Aung San Suu Kyi, the charismatic opposition leader, who has been under house arrest since June, 1989.

In the end, the government should let the junta know that further democratic suppression would not be tolerated—Burma's military and police forces should instead concentrate on drug supression—otherwise future collaboration with Thailand would become more difficult. The situation in Burma could also become a part of the fickleness of Thai politics.

Secondly, the Thai government must establish contacts with the opposition which represents democracy in Burma, without delay. To obtain the real political picture in Burma, Thailand can not overlook the opposition. Ignoring the democratic forces would have far-reaching consequences. It is tantamount to ignoring the spoken words of the public. The failure would translate into animosity among the future generations of Burma who are being raised under the horror rule of the junta with the consent of the Thai government.

Thai authorities have so far shunned the opposition. The Thai diplomatic corps in Rangoon is reluctant to get acquainted with them fearing that such an action would jeopardize ties with the military junta—especially at a time when the military is harassing certain diplomats from other countries.

When Chawalit was the army chief, he singularly handled Burmese affairs, establishing a personal rapport with the Burmese leadership in the lead-up to the international isolation of Burma in the wake of its bloody crackdown. On top of this policy, it is an open secret that Thailand has a gargantuan vested interest in the logging, gems and fishing industries of Burma. Thailand's economic interest in Burma has been doubly fortified because of the imposition of the logging ban last year by the Chatchai government and dwindling natural resources due to unbridled exploitation.

At the moment, there is strong feeling here among policy-makers in the Thai security apparatus that the military junta will not give up its current power to the opposition, which it considers a "enemy" and "communist aspirants", despite continued international effort to pressure it to loosen its grip on the populace and allow the democratic process to take root. It's sad but true, but certain policymakers are advocating even stronger support of the Burmese military rulers because they think Thailand's interests and security would be best preserved. Thailand is at the crossroads now. It is not too late to acknowledge the legitimacy of the NLD and give it full consideration when formulating a more realistic policy toward Burma that recognizes the aspirations of the democracy-loving generation.

Vietnam

Nguyen Co Thach Concludes Visit to Japan

BK2710161590 Hanoi VNA in English 1534 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA Oct. 27—Vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach left Tokyo this afternoon, concluding his official visit to Japan.

While there, he met with senior Japanese officials, politicians, and businessmen. In those meetings, the two sides exchanged ideas on matters relating to the bilateral relations and international issues of mutual concern. The Japanese officials and politicians expressed their belief that Nguyen Co Thach's visit would open a new stage in the relations between the two countries and contribute to peace in Southeast Asia as well as the Asia-Pacific region.

Meanwhile, the Japanese businessmen highly appreciated Vietnam's economic renovation and foreign policy. They also exchanged views with Nguyen Co Thach on the questions of investment and economic cooperation with Vietnam.

Vice-chairman Nguyen Co Thach invited a League of Japanese Economists (Keidanren) delegation to pay a visit to Vietnam. The Japanese side accepted the invitation.

On Oct. 25 afternoon, Nguyen Co Thach and his party visited the former capital city of Kyoto where are located many well-known historical and cultural relics, including Kiyomizu Tera Pagoda.

In the morning of Oct. 27, Foreign Ministers Nguyen Co Thach and Taro Nakayama held talks. The two sides exchanged ideas on the relations between the two countries and issues of common concern. They unanimously held that Nguyen Co Thach's visit has opened up a new period in the relations between the two countries.

On this occasion, a document on the exchange of letters between the Vietnamese ambassador and the Japanese foreign minister regarding Japan's gratuitous aid in the form of equipment to Vietnam television was signed.

In the afternoon the same day, the two sides made public the joint press statement on Nguyen Co Thach's Japan visit.

Joint Communique Issued

BK2710153590 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Vietnam-Japan Joint Communique on Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach's 22-27 October Visit to Japan; dated 27 October]

[Text] 1. At the invitation of the Japanese Government, Nguyen Co Thach, foreign minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, paid an official visit to Japan from 22-27 October 1990.

2. During his stay in Japan, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and his wife were received by the Japanese emperor and empress. He also paid a courtesy call on Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and held talks with Dr. Taro Nakayama, Japanese foreign minister.

3. Foreign Ministers Nakayama and Nguyen Co Thach exchanged views on bilateral relations and on international matters of mutual interest. All of the talks took place in a frank and friendly atmosphere of mutual understanding.

4. With regard to the Cambodian issue, the two foreign ministers welcomed the existence of a favorable environment needed for a comprehensive political solution and unanimously held that it is necessary to reach an early comprehensive political solution for the sake of Southeast Asian peace, stability, and prosperity.

The two foreign ministers affirmed their support for the general framework for peace put forth by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council. They expressed hope that all Cambodian parties will make active contributions to achieving an early peace. In this spirit, the two foreign ministers called on members of the Supreme National Council to resume their meeting as soon as possible to solve outstanding problems.

5. As for the relations between the two countries, the two foreign ministers unanimously held that both of the countries need to increase their cooperative efforts to build a long-lasting and stable relationship in the future.

6. The two foreign ministers noted with satisfaction that the visit to Japan by Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and the dialogue on policies between the two countries have created important foundations for potential relations between Vietnam and Japan.

Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach expressed his deep gratitude toward the government and people of Japan for the sincerity and hospitality they showed him and his entourage during their stay in Japan.

7. Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach invited his Japanese counterpart Nakayama to pay an official visit to Vietnam in the near future. Foreign Minister Nakayama accepted this inviation with gratitude. The timing for his visit will be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

Commentary Assesses Minister's Visit to Japan

BK2910144090 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 29 Oct 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] The official visit to Japan of Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach was made at the invitation of the Japanese Government. This was the highest level of visit between the two countries in the past 10 years.

In his five days in Japan from 22 to 27 October, Mr. Thach held talks and made contacts with almost all high-ranking leaders of Japan; including Japanese Emperor Akihito, Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, and many other Japanese politicians. That Vietnam and Japan shared the view that these talks contribute to a new future in Japan-Vietnam relations.

A joint press statement released at the end of the visit said that Mr. Thach's visit to Japan constitutes an important basis for future perfecting of bilateral relations between Vietnam and Japan. The visit showed that there are new positive changes in the relations between the two countries.

Everyone knows that Vietnam and Japan are Asian countries having many similarities in building a cooperation of mutual benefits. However, in the past 10 years the relations between the two countries, including economic relations, have not developed, it was regrettable. Vietnam defends its independence while develops friendship and cooperation relationship with all countries on the basis of mutual respect. Vietnam is self-reliant in national construction. However, foreign aid and cooperation are important factors and useful in developing its economy. Vietnam wishes that the Vietnam-Japan relations develop in the interests of the two countries.

Recently, many important delegations including those of diplomats, businessmen, and MPs of the two countries visited each other and expressed their wishes for further development of the Vietnam-Japan relations in the interests of the two countries of peace, stability, friendship, and cooperation in the region.

There are considerable changes in the Vietnam-Japan economic relations. In the past few years, the trade turnover between Vietnam and Japan was rather high. According to statistics released by the Japanese ambassador at the seminar on Vietnam-Japan economic exchange held in Hanoi recently, this year the trade turnover between the two countries will reach between $700-800 million. Vietnam believes that through the visit of Mr. Thach and with efforts from both sides, the Vietnam-Japan relations would obtain new steps of development, conforming to the interests of the two peoples and the current trend of the region and the world at present.

Japanese Urge Development of Infrastructures

BK2710152990 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] According to the Japanese news agency, KYODO, leaders of the Japanese business circles on 25 October requested that Vietnam accelerate the development of its infrastructures to attract investment from Japanese companies. They conveyed this request to Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach at a meeting chaired by the Union of Economic Organizations of Japan, an influential, powerful economic group.

In his answer, Minister Nguyen Co Thach said Vietnam is studying the possibility of receiving financial assistance from the World Bank or the International Monetary Fund, while proposing that Japan act as a mediator in this process. This proposal is being favorably considered by Japanese government officials.

The minister also disclosed that Vietnam will begin its new five-year economic plan from the 1991 fiscal year. This plan will help accelerate the development of its infrastructures and export policies.

Thach Blames Beijing for Cambodian Stalemate

BK2910012090 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 29 Oct 90 p 1

[Text] Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach blames China for not contributing to the Cambodian peace process.

In an explicit reference to Peking, which arms the Khmer Rouge guerrillas battling the Phnom Penh regime, Mr Thach said that Vietnam has done its share to solve the Cambodian problem by withdrawing its forces.

"But what has the other side done?.. Who supplied the 24 tanks that came to Cambodia?" Thach asked in reference to the reported arrival recently of tanks from Peking for the Khmer Rouge. "I don't know whether they're American, Soviet or Thai tanks," he quipped.

The Vietnamese foreign minister, who arrived in Bangkok from Tokyo late on Saturday, called on all foreign countries to stop putting pressure on the Cambodians and let them solve their problems themselves.

Asked to respond to Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng's recent remarks that the disagreement among the Cambodians over the composition of an interim authority was the result of Vietnam not having lent enough persuasion to its Phnom Penh allies, he said: "There are 24 tanks coming to the Cambodians. They're stepping up military operations. Who has created the differences? When (Phnom Penh Prime Minister) Hun Sen agreed that Sihanouk should be chairman and he vice chairman, Son Sann, the Khmer Rouge and some foreign countries opposed it. "Vietnam has never declared that it is for or opposed to such and such a person."

The Supreme National Council was formed in Jakarta on September 10, but its inaugural session in Bangkok a week later ended in disarray with the two rival parties locked in a wrangle over the role of Prince Sihanouk.

But Mr Thach said the current impasse is a small one compared to other stumbling blocks that have already been overcome in the Cambodian peace process. "These deadlocks are temporary, and not long-term issues. I hope the Cambodian parties can solve the problems among themselves," Thach said.

He emphasised that all outside parties should stop intervening in what he called the "internal matters of the Cambodians", which include the interim authority. "If now all foreign countries could agree to stop any kind of intervention, military, political, diplomatic or economic, it would create a good environment for the Cambodians to come to an agreement," he said. Mr. Thach will meet Foreign Minister Subin Pinkhayan to discuss Cambodia this morning.

Vietnamese, Cambodian Cities Enhance Cooperation

BK2910093090 Hanoi VNA in English 0709 GMT 29 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 29—Documents on economic and cultural cooperation in 1991 between Ho Chi Minh City and Phnom Penh were signed in Ho Chi Minh City on October 27.

Signatories were Nguyen Vinh Nghiep, chairman of the people's committee of Ho Chi Minh City, and Hok Lundy, chairman of the people's committee of Phnom Penh, who was on a tour of Ho Chi Minh City from October 25-27.

The documents deal with continued measures to boost trade cooperation between commerce companies of the two cities and Ho Chi Minh City's assistance to Phnom Penh in the repair of roads, dykes and dams, the building and upgrading of hotels, and personnel training [words indistinct] cultural, art and sports cooperation between the two cities.

Nguyen Co Thach To Hold Talks With Premier

BK2910061790 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 29 Oct 90

[Text] According to reports from Bangkok, Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach arrived in the capital of Thailand on 28 October. He called for the cessation of all foreign interference in Cambodia. Today, he will hold talks with Thai Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan.

Tran Duc Luong Attends Czechoslovak Reception

BK2910042090 Hanoi VNA in English 1531 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 26—Czechoslovak Charge d'Affaires Ad Interim J. Hanculak and his wife gave a reception here this evening to mark the 72nd anniversary of the Czech-Slovak Republic (October 28).

Among his guests were Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers Tran Duc Luong and Deputy Foreign Minister Vu Khoan.

Guests and host raised toasts to the further consolidation and development of the friendship and cooperation between the Republic of Czech and Slovakia and Vietnam.

Do Muoi, Vo Chi Cong Greet Havel, Calfa

BK2810091490 Hanoi VNA in English 1548 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 27—Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi and President of the State Council Vo Chi Cong today extended their greetings to Prime Minister Marian Calfa and President Vaclav Havel of the Federal Republic of Czech and Slovakia on their country's founding anniversary.

The Vietnamese leaders expressed their wishes for continued development of the friendship and cooperation between the peoples and governments of the two countries.

Do Muoi Congratulates Mahathir on Reelection

BK2910054790 Hanoi VNA in English 1549 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 27—Chairman of the Council of Ministers Do Muoi today extended his warm congratulations to Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamed on the occasion of his re-election as prime minister of Malaysia.

The message says:

"May the Malaysian people, under Your Excellency's leadership, obtain many new achievements in building a happy and prosperous country.

"I wish that the friendly and cooperative relations between Vietnam and Malaysia will be constantly consolidated and developed in the interests of the two peoples, of peace, stability, friendship and cooperation in Southeast Asia."

CPV Greets Swedish Communist Party Congress

BK2910040990 Hanoi VNA in English 1529 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 26—The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPVCC) has extended its warm greetings to the 29th Congress of the Workers' Communist Party (APK) of Sweden.

In its message of greetings, the CPVCC said:

"Over the past years, the APK has, together with progressive forces in Sweden, resolutely struggled for the defence of civil rights, democracy and social progress against the arms race, and for disarmament, a nuclear-free North Europe as well as a world of peace, stability and cooperation.

"May the friendship between the two parties and peoples of Vietnam and Sweden be further consolidated and developed."

Bank Conference Held in Ho Chi Minh City

BK2710114990 Hanoi VNA in English 0723 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 27—An annual conference of the International Bank for Economic Cooperation (IBEC) and the 50th conference of the International Investment Bank (IIB) were held in Ho Chi Minh City from October 23-26 under the auspices of Vietnam.

The conferences were attended by delegates from Bulgaria, Hungary, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the Soviet Union, and the Federal Republic of Czech and Slovakia, and representatives of the Secretariat of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) and the executive board of the IBEC and IIB. The FRG sent its observers to the conferences.

The Vietnamese delegation to the events was led by Cao Sy Kiem, governor of Vietnam's State Bank.

The participants exchanged views on issues of strategic significance relating to the organization and management of business transactions of IBEC and IIB in the current process of profound and comprehensive renovation in their member countries and in the wake of major changes in the relations of international economic cooperation. Delegates of the IBEC and IIB member countries deemed it necessary to gear up activites of these organizations based on the commercial principles with the perfection of their mechanism and the application of professional forms currently used by the World Bank. The conference adopted a program of action for 1991 and made decisions on some issues relating to IBEC and IIB activities.

The conference agreed that the role of German Democratic Republic as full member to the IBEC and the IIB officially ended as from October 3, 1990. All matters concerning this issue are going to be settled in the spirit of friendship and mutual understanding.

The delegates were cordially received by Vo Van Kiet, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and feted by Nguyen Vinh Nghiep, mayor of Ho Chi Minh City.

Chinese Language School Reopened at University

BK2710115790 Hanoi VNA in English 0729 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 27—The Hanoi Teachers' Foreign Languages College reopened its Chinese Language Faculty at a ceremony yesterday.

This is the college's 17th Chinese language course followed by 50 students. The previous course was terminated in 1982.

The opening ceremony was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Education and Training, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee's Commission for External Relations and Commission for Science and Education, the Vietnam-China Friendship Association, and Counsellor Li Jiazhong and Second Secretary Li Bengan of the Chinese Embassy in Hanoi.

Speaking at the ceremony, Rector Nguyen Duc Chinh said Chinese is one of the four main foreign languages being taught in Vietnam (the other three are Russian, English and French). The teaching and learning of Chinese in Vietnam will serve as a bridge of friendship between the two countries, he said.

Reports on Jan-Sep 1990 Economic Indicators

BK2810085090 Hanoi VNA in English 1524 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 27—Economic indicators in the first nine months of this year showed a continued upward trend.

Farmers throughout the country harvested fairly good crops in both summer and autumn. They reaped more than 12 million tonnes of paddy in the winter-spring and summer-autumn crops, up by 400,000 tonnes over the same crops last year. This makes the target of 21-22 million tonnes of food for this year attainable.

Stock breeding is also making headway. By September, the whole country had more than 2.9 million buffaloes, up by 1.5 percent compared with last year, nearly 3.3 million cows and oxen, up by 2.5 percent, 12.7 million pigs, up by four percent and 110 million poultry, up by five percent. Demands for meat for home consumption was ensured at stable price.

Realignment is going on in the industrial sector. Total industrial output value in September this year was 4.9 percent higher than the same period last year. The increase was 15 percent at the national enterprises and 5.7 percent at the local enterprises. About 70 percent of essential industrial goods reported increases: 11.6 percent for electricity, 15.4 percent for coal, 30.7 percent for cement, 14.9 percent for rolled steel, 83.8 percent for transformers, 17.6 percent for diesel engines, 98.4 percent for insecticide, 32.4 percent for ceramics and 10 percent for paper.

Total export value in the first nine months of this year reached 1,612 million U.S. dollars and rubles [figure and currencies as received], up by 18.4 percent over the same period last year, in which rubber increased by 45 percent, peanut by 38.6 percent, coffee by 33.3 percent, rice by 23.4 percent, and crude oil by 115.1 percent. The export of arts and crafts showed some decrease.

Meanwhile, 79 more foreign-invested projects have been licensed with a total investment of 335 million U.S. dollars.

Inflation remains under control. Overall price hike in nine months was 3.3 percent per month. Inflation rate stood at two digits as in 1989 compared with three digits in 1988.

Rains Damage 70 Percent of Binh Dinh Rice

BK2810064090 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 25 Oct 90

[Text] Torrential rains since October 13 have damaged tens of thousands of hectares of ripening rice in the province of Binh Dinh, south of Central Vietnam. Initial reports said up to 70 percent of the rice output expected in the province must have been lost to flood waters. Heavy rains also damaged 3,000 meters of sea dike as well as several water control projects.

Flood waters have brought traffic to a standstill and caused considerable material losses to the local people. Measures have been taken to quickly overcome the consequences of the floods to normalize the people's daily life.

Vietnamese Foodgrain Dealers Visit France

BK2610152990 Hanoi VNA in English 0722 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 26—A delegation of the Ho Chi Minh City Food Company (FOODCO) led by its Director Ms. Nguyen Thi Rao (alias Ba Thi) [name as received] has visited France at the invitation of the French Company Sucden.

During this visit, the delegation had working sessions with the Sucden Directorate and Management Board. The two sides signed an economic contract worth U.S. dollars ten million by which FOODCO will buy wheat flour from its French partner and will pay for it in rice within one year.

The delegation also had working sessions with a number of French banks, the assistant to the French minister of agriculture and minister of foreign trade and tourism.

Commission Says Gasoline, Food Prices Rise

BK2610134090 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 23 Oct 90

[Text] According to statistics provided by the State Price Commission, the market price situation over the past few days has been as follows:

—Grain: the price of food grains continues to increase in many localities throughout the country. There has been a general increase of 20-50 dong per kg. In Hanoi, the price of ordinary, non-glutinous rice is between 1,000 and 1,150 per kg while the price for good category rice varies from 1,200-1,300 per kg. In Ho Chi Minh City, the price stands at 1,200 dong per kg.

—Foodstuffs: The price of hog on the hoof in northern provinces stands between 3,000 and 3,400 dong per kg. In southern provinces, the price of hog on the hoof continues to go down. It has dropped to 2,900 dong per kg, a decrease of 400 dong, in Nhatrang; and to 3,500 dong per kg, a decrease of 250 dong, in Ho Chi Minh City.

The price of Category-C seafish in Thuan Hai and Khanh Hoa has increased between 300 and 500 dong per kg.

—Gasoline and oil: The price of gasoline continues to stand at a high level, especially in northern provinces where the gasoline price is reported to have risen between 2,100 and 2,500 dong per liter. In southern provinces, the gasoline price varies between 2,300 and 2,400 dong per liter. In particular, the gasoline price in Ho Chi Minh City is 1,800 dong per liter.

The price of kerosone has soared high nationwide. It is priced at 1,600 dong per liter in Hanoi, 1,700 dong per liter in Nhatrang, and 1,950 dong per liter in Camau.

—Gold and the U.S. dollar: the prices of gold and the U.S. dollar have been relatively stable and are now on a declining trend. The price of gold, 98 percent pure, in Hanoi is between 312,000 and 315,000 dong per chi [measuring unit equivalent to 3.75 grams], down between 2,000 and 3,000 dong per chi; and in Quang Nam-Danang it is 307,000 dong per chi, a drop of 7,000 dong per chi. In Ho Chi Minh City, the price of gold, 96 percent pure, is between 301,000 and 302,000 per chi, down between 7,000 and 8,000 dong per chi.

Defendants Speak on Last Day of Bribery Trial

BK2810064390 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 25 Oct 90

[Text] A Voice of Vietnam correspondent reported from Ho Chi Minh City that in the last day of hearings into the Thanh Huong perfume factory case on 25 October, a representative of the Ho Chi Minh City People's Organ of Control presented concrete evidence and indictment and interrogation of the defendants to make clear the nature of their crimes, which include offering bribes and embezzlement.

Lawyers also did their best in protecting the defendants' legitimate rights in accordance with the law. During the last session, the defendants were allowed to speak their views. The 22 defendants confessed, expressed great regret, and asked the people for a pardon.

Due to the importance of the case, the court will be adjourned for two days and will adjudicate the case on 27 October.

Radio Talks About Current Corruption Problems

BK2610143490 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1400 GMT 23 Oct 90

["Topical Talk" Feature by Station Editor Vu Dinh Vinh]

[Text] Dear comrades and friends: In implementing the sixth party congress resolution, in the past three years or more our people have strenuously struggled to overcome many difficulties and have scored some important inital progresses to develop and stabilize the socioeconomic situation step by step. Decision 240 of the Council of Ministers on the anticorruption struggle, dated 26 June 1990, however, specified: Much negativism still prevails in our society among which corruption is the most prominent. Not only has corruption under many forms not been prevented, but also it tends to be even more serious. As a result, anticorruption has become a policy of the party and a decision of the state. This is a struggle to prevent and eliminate corruption step by step, to purify the leadership machinery of the party and state, to raise the sense of responsibility of cadres and other personnel, to gradually restore order and discipline in socioeconomic management, and to consolidate the people's confidence in the party and state.

The purpose of this struggle as emphasized in Decision 240 of the Council of Ministers is to immediately focus on fighting corruption, bribery, intentional infringements on policies and laws, and waste of cash and other assets of the state.

To be more specific, corrupt people generally can be found taking the following forms: They abuse their functions, positions and authority to authorize various forms of joint ventures and alliances and to act as media to get the required services; take advantage of loopholes in the mechanism of management under the labels of renovation and dynamism; capitalize on orders to split, integrate and disband units; and make use of the conclusion of trade with foreign countries, the tapping and use of various sources of foreign aid, the signing of bidding contracts, and so forth, in order to embezzle state assets. They take advantage of their control over the allocation of funds, material supplies, quotas, export-import licenses, land and houses; the registration of households; the recruitment of workers; the granting of exit visas; the examination of economic dialectics, the estimates of construction projects, and so forth, in order to misappropriate money of the people and the state. They take advantage of their authority to inspect and control the exploitation of special products and the shipments of goods, the expansion of markets abroad to smuggle contraband, accept gifts and bribes and serve as channels for bribery, causing great losses of money and materials to the state. They purposedly violate policies and laws in order to seek advantages, casually establish their own rules and systems for personal and departmental interests to the detriment of common interests, indulge in luxury and waste, and buy gifts with public funds.

It can be said that corruption manifested under the abovementioned forms has never taken place as seriously as it does now. It prevails everywhere, from the central down to the grass-roots levels, in all sectors and domains and at all echelons. It appears under all forms, from the brazen to the subtle.

By reading newspapers and listening to the radio daily, we can become aware of the major cases and events. Yet how about the many minor cases that have taken place in everyday life, which everyone know about? Just a few major cases can show us how dangerous corruption is.

DAI DOAN KET weekly reports that corruption is particularly notorious and worse, becoming a burning issue in the banking sector with 180 cases causing losses of 22 billion dong; and in the National Reserves Sector with 12 cases causing a loss of four billion dong or so.

The paper NHAN DAN reported that by relaxing management and supervision, the three deputy directors general of the state bank—Nguyen Van Dam, Le Trong Khanh, and Ngo Tan Thiep—have allowed negative phenomena to occur in the banking sector. These included using funds for the payment of wages and bonuses not in accordance with the prescribed systems, or allowing cadres and personnel of the banking sector to outrageously transgress the credit, monetary, and payment systems, thus depriving many cadres and causing disorder and trouble in the sector.

According to NHAN DAN, there have also been many serious cases of negativism in the national reserves sector, such as selling more than three million dong worth of rare reserve materials on credit to many organs and privately-owned establishments in defiance of the order of the Council of Ministers; selling reserve materials to the wrong recipients or not in accordance with the prescribed prices for personal gains; and taking advantage of loopholes in the management mechanism to purchase paddy to loan out for profits, or to barter reserve paddy for other merchandise at will. As a result, an enormously large the quantity of paddy has been loaned out while those involved in this practice have been able enrich themselves quickly.

Such journals as LAO DONG, TUAN TIN TUC, and DAI DOAN KET also mentioned much about cases of negativism in the forestry sector, especially one involving Vice Minister Than Trung Hieu, who had inflicted a loss of as much as 48 billion dong in state property. In an inspection of 20,055 cubic meters of logs alone, by claiming that 3,359 cubic meters were destroyed by fire, he had caused the state to lose more than 2,000 tael of gold.

Vice Minister Than Trung Hieu was also known to have signed 96 permits for the exportation of 2.5 million cubic meters of timber at a time when the entire sector could exploit only one million cubic meters annually. Apart from this, there have been other irregularities, causing the sector to incur prolonged losses. People used to say sardonically that it was Vice Minister Hieu's signatures which helped make the country poor.

It can be said that the Thanh Huong perfume factory case in the south was the biggest case of fraud involving the mobilization of more than 153 billion dong for illegal business activities. According to a Sunday issue of the journal LAO DONG, Thanh Huong perfume factory used 220 chi of gold [one chi is equivalent to 3.75 grams] and 294 million dong to pay off various officials. All the cadres involved admitted, when prosecuted, that they had accepted bribes. These included Phan Cong Sinh, director of the Ho Chi Minh City Justice Service, and Nguyen Vu Hung, chairman of the People's Council of the First Precinct.

We can say that corruption is no longer regarded as a practice that involves only those degenerate or deviant people with positions and powers. It has become a social vice. Decision No. 240 of the Council of Ministers pointed out clearly the main causes of corruption, which include slackness in state management, flexibility in the enforcement of social discipline and state law, and the failure to carry out control and inspection work on a regular basis.

Although the old management mechanism is being eliminated, the new management mechanism still has not uniformly taken shape. This has given rise to irrationalities, especially in the distribution of incomes. There is also a lack of responsibility and decisiveness in the process of struggle, and even the efforts to protect or help the wrongdoers by a number of people with leadership positions.

Dear comrades and friends, the enforcement of Decision No. 240 by the Council of Ministers has demonstrated the resolute attitude of our party and state toward the struggle against corruption. Together with all echelons and sectors, a broad segment of our people have participated actively in this struggle, as it has won their sympathy and support.

Among the public and in each locality and each establishment, everybody has contributed his efforts to the struggle against corruption by introducing the ways to solve various problems or by contributing views to various responsible organs in order to expose cadres who abuse their positions and powers to practice corruption, embezzle public funds, or deliberately commit erroneous acts, as well as individuals who seek to use state funds in a lavish way.

In the Army, the Ministry of National Defense has issued a directive providing guidance for the implementation of the Council of Ministers' Decision No. 240 on the struggle against corruption. Implementing this decision, the standing body of the Party Central Committee Military Commission and the Ministry of National Defense have provided guidance for all units in the army concerning the requirements and objectives of the struggle against corruption.

The directive points out the need to satisfy the following requirements:

—Limit and prevent the continuation of violations of the state, army, and people's property.

—Recover all the property that has been expropriated.

—Improve managerial work among all sectors, echelons, and establishments, especially army units engaged in economic tasks.

—Inspire confidence among cadres and combatants in the results of the struggle against corruption.

The directive also stresses the need to combine the implementation of this decision with inspecting the execution of party statutes among party members in order to expose and deal with degenerate or deviant cadres and party members, as well as with the campaign to develop the fine tradition and nature of Uncle Ho's soldiers and the movement to maintain discipline and improve the fighting strength of the Army.

The National Defense Ministry directive also clearly specified concrete steps for implementation: Chiefs of agencies and units from the ministry down to grass-roots levels must directly guide the implementation. For assistance in the implementation, committees must be promptly established in the ministry, general departments, military regions, armed branches, Army corps and armed services should include representatives from various staff, political, logistical and technical agencies, and from the party's control committee, investigating agency, tribunal, control and inspection organs, and so forth.

In lower level units, commanders must be directly responsible for guiding the implementation. Unit chiefs and their assisting committees must establish a system for coordinating activities among committees in order to promptly solve emerging problems. The struggle against corruption can be said to have received the support and sympathy of all the people and troops, and the participation of all sectors and echelons. Although its has been conducted for only a few months, it has already achieved some initial results and created confidence among the people.

Through detection by the masses and the various mass information media, many cases of negativism and corruption have been brought to light and dealt with by law. The people welcome the Council of Ministers' decision to dismiss three deputy general directors of the state bank, Nguyen Van Dam, Le Trong Khanh and Ngo Tan Kiet, as well as the decision to dimiss the key cadres of the National Reserve Department while simultaneously taking action against many other negative cases in the state bank and the National Reserve Department.

The people have also attentively watched the Thanh Huong perfume case and know that among the number of accused persons together with Nguyen Van Muoi Hai and accomplices are also some cadres in positions of authority who have lent a hand to the swindlers for having accepted bribes and sought personal interests. They are, namely, the director of the justice administration service and the 1st precinct people's committee chairman and so forth.

We have also realized, however, that the struggle against corruption is still complicated and the achievements are merely initial results. Criminals always strive to hide their illegal acts by trying to deceive contacts and witnesses. Dealing with corrupt people still faces some definite obstacles because of protection and intervention by their superiors, and because of their intriguing maneuvers to avoid being punished by criminal law and to get only intramural administrative punishment to come out finally with impunity.

The process of taking action against serious cases is still slow. Moreover, some cases have been dealt with, but not severely. Just as Decision 240 of the Council of Ministers has stressed: It is primarily due to the fact that leaders of all sectors and echelons from the central down to grass-roots levels have failed to fully realize their responsibility and to resolutely struggle against acts of corruption in their sectors, localities and installations of which they are in charge that the situation of corruption has prolonged and become serious. Just like Comrade NVL said, law is not severe and is still too lenient, rightist, and deviant.

Dear comrades and friends: In order to continually and more effectively accelerate the struggle against corruption, on 17 October the party secretariat issued a directive requesting all party committee echelons to focus leadership closely on the four targeted and immediate tasks. So, all the party, people, troops, and sectors at all levels and localities have joined in this struggle. It is obvious that the struggle against corruption is very fierce and complicated. As a result, it must be conducted regularly and continuously. We must use resolute and positive measures and oppose the perfunctory manner of leaving every action half-finished.

We believe that with integrated strength and high determination, we will certainly be able to conduct the struggle against corruption resolutely, steadily and continuously, in order to achieve high results, since this struggle deals with a dangerous enemy within who threatens to directly destroy the people's confidence in the party and the state. It is also a direct ally of all enemies without who are biding their time to overthrow the socialist regime in our country.

Cadres, party members, the people and the armed forces countrywide have expressed their full support for Decision 240 of the Council of Ministers and their earnest aspirations that the leading agencies of the party and state, the committees, mass organizations, and both executive and legislative agencies from the central down to grass-roots levels be exemplarily determined to eliminate the malignant tumors on the national body in order to help encourage all the party members and people to advance and victoriously implement the process of renovating the country in accordance with the spirit of the Sixth Party Congress resolution, to create a new impetus in the revolutionary movement of the masses, and to practically greet the Seventh Party Congress.

Province Reports Crime Suppression Results

BK2510151690 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 21 Oct 90

[Summary] "Ha Bac Province has reviewed the results of one-year of mobilizing the masses to implement Directive 135 of the Council of Ministers. After six phases of mass mobilization, 1,337 criminals were arrested in the entire province. This figure included the number of people detained in 677 cases investigated and resolved by the public security forces. Many of these cases were quite complicated and serious. The number of daring armed robberies that occurred frequently in the previous years has dropped sharply. Especially, all cases of highway armed robberies were solved."

Ha Bac recorded outstanding achievements in carrying out the policy of persuading criminals to turn themselves in. For this success, it has been commended by the Ministry of Interior. "Within one month, from 15 July to 15 August, 288 suspects surrendered. The provincial public security forces recovered 280 firearms, 600 grenades, and hundreds of kilograms of explosives—most of them kept by the public for many years—and a huge quantity of reactionary, decadent cultural products."

Committee Conference Reviews Party Building

BK2910111890 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Thuan Hai provincial party committee recently held a conference to review the party building task at various grass-roots units. This is an extensive political activity with 80-100 percent participation by the party membership. The people have also contributed ideas to the task.

Through this review, it was found that party organizations and chapters in the rural areas were weak in leadership while their membership was large but incapable. More than 50 percent of the members have not been assigned any specific tasks. Most of them were unable to set a good example for the people; some even violated the state policies on land and taxation while others led a debauched life.

It is noted that party organizations and members in the rural areas have not been able to stay close to the people and care for the people's daily lives.

During the review, grass-roots party organizations and chapters conducted criticism and self-criticism. Many members admitted their shortcomings. In some localities, however, a number of party members who committed mistakes were trying to help each other cover up their shortcomings. As a result, no serious administrative or legal actions have been taken against them.

Generally speaking, the province's review on the party building task has contributed to enhancing the party membership's confidence in the party objective and ideal.

Do Muoi, Ministers Visit Northeastern Provinces

BK2910062890 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 28 Oct 90

[Text] On 23, 24, and 25 October, Do Muoi, chairman of the Council of Ministers, paid a visit to Cao Bang Province and had working sessions with some northeastern provinces, including Bac Thai, Ha Tuyen, and Lang Son, on the socioeconomic development strategy for 1991, for the 1991-1995 five-year period, and up to the year 2000. The chairman was accompanied by the chairman of the State Planning Commission, the director of the Office for Mountain Regions and Nationalities, and the ministers and vice ministers of agriculture and food industry; forestry; trade; communications, transportation, and post and telegraph; heavy industry; and public health.

Chairman Do Muoi stressed: To successfully implement the orientation and targets of the socioeconomic development strategy, we must resolutely renovate management, especially economic management; renovate the organizational mechanism from the provinces to the grass roots; and renovate the the work style of party and state organs. We must purify the party ranks and the ranks of state organs. In the immediate future, we must do a good job in carrying out the struggle against corruption and smuggling.

Do Phuong Appointed New VNA Director General

BK2510162290 Hanoi VNA in English 1453 GMT 25 Oct 90

[Text] Hanoi VNA October 25—Mr. Do Phuong has been officially appointed director general of VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY to replace his predecessor, Mr. Dao Tung, who died on September 15, 1990 of a serious illness.

Before this appointment, Mr. Do Phuong was VNA's deputy director general from 1960.

The new VNA leadership comprises three members, the other two Deputy Directors General Ho Tien Nghi and Nguyen Duc Giap.

Dao Duy Tung at Paper's Anniverary Ceremony

BK2810143290 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 25 Oct 90

[Text] The paper HANOI MOI just held a ceremony to commemorate the 33d anniversary of the release of its first daily issue, 24 October 1957-24 October 1990.

Present at the ceremony were representatives from the Hanoi Municipal Party Committee and the party Central Committee's Culture and Ideology Department and colleagues from the press circles.

On this occasion, Comrade Dao Duy Tung, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee, and Comrade Pham The Duyet, secretary of both the party Central Committee and the Hanoi Municipal Party Committee, attended a get-together with cadres and correspondents and workers and personnel of the paper HANOI MOI's editorial staff and printing house.

Comrade Ho Xuan Son, editor in chief, reviewed the main features in the process of development of the paper HANOI MOI during the past 33 years. He also pointed out a number of initial experiences concerning what has or has not yet been done in order to continue the process of renovating the paper, thus making it worthy of being the organ of public opinion of the capital party committee and the voice of a broad segment of the Hanoi people.

Addressing the get-together, Comrades Dao Duy Tung and Pham The Duyet expressed joy at the progress made by the paper. They also urged all journalists in Hanoi to always maintain the candidness of a writer.

Fiji

Government Bans Rallies at University Campus

BK2710012390 Hong Kong AFP in English 1826 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Suva, Oct 26 (AFP)—Fiji's military-backed government banned political meetings and rallies at the University of the South Pacific [USP] campus here Friday. The ban prevented students and staff from demonstrating in sympathy with an ethnic Indian lecturer who was abducted and tortured after organising a protest against the country's new constitution. The university was shut Friday and its 2,000 students boycotted classes to press demands for extra security following the abduction of the senior physics lecturer, Anirudh Singh.

Acting Home Affairs Minister Josevata Kamikamica said that meetings were banned under the public order act "in the interests of public safety and the maintenance of public order."

Indian students and academic staff had planned to hold a procession and burn copies of Fiji's new constitution, which guarantees political power to the indigenous Fijian minority.

Dr. Singh was kidnapped and beaten by unidentified men on Wednesday after helping to organise a ceremony last week at which the constitution was burned in a rubbish bin. The government then described the protest as "treason." It also condemned the kidnapping and torture of Dr. Singh.

University Vice-Chancellor Geoffrey Caston said that police had been asked to protect some 800 students who live on campus. Some had received "threatening calls and some said they were being followed around," he said after conferring for two hours with Indian staff and students.

Ethnic Indian students said they would continue their protest until governments in the region promised additional security.

The USP has students from 11 Pacific nations.

USP Staff Association President Subash Chandra said staff wanted assurances from island governments. "In order to pursue scientific and professional activities required of us, freedoms of expression, association and academic freedom has to be guaranteed," he said.

Fiji's ethnic Indian primary and secondary school teachers, the Fiji Teachers Union, and the national farmers union also said they would strike next week in sympathy with Dr. Singh.

Police Commissioner Josefa Lewaicei rebutted claims by trade unionists that police were delaying arrests of the suspects. He said the police viewed kidnapping "as a very serious crime" but only made arrests with proper evidence.

Ethnic Indians Stage One-Day Strike 29 Oct

BK2910104590 Hong Kong AFP in English 1004 GMT 29 Oct 90

[Text] Suva, Oct 29 (AFP)—Ethnic Indians staged a one-day strike here Monday in protest against the abduction and alleged torture of a Hindu university lecturer last week, affecting schools, the civil service and the sugarcane harvest. Hindu teachers and sugarcane farmers on the west coast of Fiji's main island of Viti Levu, the opposition party stronghold, boycotted work in large numbers.

Fiji teachers union General-Secretary Pratap Chand said a "good number of schools around other parts of the country also showed solidarity support to our call."

Mr. Chand accused the government of trying to intimidate striking teachers by sending police to schools to collect the names of protesters.

Government civil servants, mainly Hindus, joined the strike despite a warning from the Public Service Commission (PSC) that it would discipline them. PSC Deputy Secretary Napolioni Masirewa said civil servants who fail to turn up for work "will have their pay deducted."

Hundreds of students boycotted classes at the Suva campus of the University of the South Pacific, which has been the centre of main protests since last Wednesday's kidnapping and beating of physics lecturer Anirudh Singh. He organised an October 18 prayer meeting at which he publicly burnt a copy of the country's Constitution, which discriminates in favour of indigenous Melanesians over ethnic Indians.

As a result of protests by Indian sugarcane farmers, two of four sugar mills were shut down Monday, grounding the country's principal foreign exchange earning industry. National farmers union President Girja Prasad said he was overwhelmed by the widespread response from Indian growers on the west coast, the main sugarcane growing belt here.

Earlier, three journalists from the DAILY POST newspaper appeared in court charged with "suspicion of malicious publication" of an article relating to plans by militant university students to burn a second copy of the racially-weighted Constitution last Friday.

Meanwhile, police made a fresh appeal on Monday for public help in apprehending four Melanesians suspected of kidnapping Dr. Singh.

New Zealand

National Wins With 'Overwhelming Landslide'

BK2710105390 Hong Kong AFP in English 1024 GMT 27 Oct 90

[By Michael Field]

[Text] Wellington, Oct 27 (AFP)—New Zealand's opposition National Party swept into power here Saturday night with an overwhelming landslide.

In an emotional acceptance speech Prime Minister-Elect Jim Bolger said he found the victory "quite humbling." His speech came moments after he received a telephone call from Prime Minister Mike Moore who conceded defeat in a strikingly friendly fashion. "Mate, I'm just ringing you to congratulate you and Joan (Mrs. Bolger)," Mr. Moore said. "You've got the country, you've had a tremendous result, from your point of view. I wish you well."

Television New Zealand and Radio New Zealand were reporting a swing from Labour to National of eight to 10 per cent. This is the greatest swing since a 14 per cent swing took Labour into power in 1935.

In Auckland and Wellington seats there were some massive swings against the government, up to 50 per cent in the case of Wellington Central. With final results not due in till late Saturday night National was looking to hold 68 seats to Labour's 28.

Although third parties appeared to poll well, particularly the new Green Party, only the Labour breakaway party, the New Labour Party got a seat in the 97-seat parliament.

Labour cabinet ministers tumbled out of office in a series of humiliating defeats. Mr. Moore said the new opposition would be "as hard as nails" but added: "There is no magic, no bitterness, that's the way things go."

Speaking to a victory party in his hometown Te Kuiti, 400 kilometres (248 miles) north of here, Mr. Bolger appealed for the country, divided by the long election campaign, to reunite. "If we hang in together, us New Zealanders won't be beaten," he said.

In a prepared speech, Mr. Bolger referred to his two most public gaffs when he first said a heckler's mother had bought him up badly and secondly when he suggested the head of the combined trade unions, Ken Douglas, was a communist who reported economic data to Moscow. The mother, Mrs. Freda Allen, turned out to be a widow who used to vote National. To Mrs. Allen and Mr. Douglas he said: "I'm sorry if I hurt you."

He also said there were awesome challenges ahead. "From tonight the politics of inclusion begins, I want to include everybody. The great challenges we face, we must face together."

The scale of Labour's disaster was summed up in several seats. In South Auckland's Otara seat, dominated by Pacific Island migrants and traditionally held by National, Labour's first Polynesian candidate was soundly beaten.

Speaker Sir Kerry Burke lost his West Coast seat, a traditional working class seat which has never before returned a National Party candidate.

Among other cabinet ministers to go were Commerce Minister David Butcher, Associate Finance Minister Peter Nielson, Deputy Speaker John Terris, Immigration Minister Annette King, Consumer Affairs Minister Margaret Shields, Transport Minister Bill Jeffries, Fisheries Minister Ken Shirley and Agriculture Minister Jim Sutton.

Tourism Minister Fran Wilde, 160 behind her National opponent, was refusing to concede defeat, saying she could be saved by special votes.

Despite poll projections, Mr. Moore held on to his own Christ Church North seat, but with a heavily reduced majority. Former Labour Prime Minister David Lange saw his majority halved.

Television New Zealand reported that projections suggested the new Green Party had taken 10 per cent of the vote but had not won a seat.

The Maori Nationalist Party, Manahmotuhake, came close to taking the North Maori seat, but Labour MP Bruce Gregory held onto the seat with a majority of 400 over Mana Motuhake leader Matiu Rata.

In 1987, Mr. Gregory held the seat with a majority of 3,529 and he could yet lose it as special votes are counted.

Before the elections labour held 56 seats in parliament to National's 40.

Bolger Stresses Ties With U.S.

BK2710092990 Hong Kong AFP in English 0905 GMT 27 Oct 90

[By Jack Taylor]

[Text] Te Kuiti, New Zealand, Oct 27 (AFP)—Rebuilding bridges with the United States will be among the top priorities for the conservative government voted into power Saturday, New Zealand's new Prime Minister Jim Bolger said.

In an exclusive interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE hours before his victory was declared, Mr. Bolger referred also to New Zealand's need to improve relations with France, to develop new trade with former Eastern bloc countries and to sooth Japananese sensitivities bruised by recent events here. But there would be no departure by his government from the policy adopted by his Labour predecessors banning nuclear capable ships in New Zealand ports.

He and his National Party have been forced by public opinion to embrace an increasingly "green" posture on some issues although he remains strongly conservative on most others.

A father of nine, Mr. Bolger, 55, is devoutly Catholic with a conservative stance on abortion law. A farmer with typical New Zealand rural values, he is an intensely moralistic supporter of traditional concepts of worthiness such as hard work, honesty and respect for law and order, which he says are in steep decline.

He intends to employ more police and to increase penalties for crimes such as rape following a 25 per cent increase in violent crime during the last five years. He will push through, as another matter of priority, legislation giving effect to voluntary unionism instead of closed shop arrangements. An essential part of his plan to counter New Zealand's major problems—high unemployment and a burgeoning budget deficit—is free, collectively bargained workplace agreements that he believes will improve productivity, efficiency and competitiveness.

Mr. Bolger was speaking in this picturesque agricultural town's community club where he went to relax over a few beers with close friends following an intensive election campaign. Te Kuiti is at the heart of his King County electorate in New Zealand's North Island. His cattle station is nearby.

He has never been popular in personal ratings, but his supporters say it does not matter that he is generally judged to be lacking in "charisma". Other leaders like George Bush, Margaret Thatcher and even former New Zealand Prime Minister David Lange all had low personal ratings before being elected to office. Before George Bush was elected president of the United States, he was accused of being a "wimp" with a charisma by-pass. People don't say that any more.

Mr. Bolger does appear sensitive to continuing jibes about his intellectual prowess—"Dim", they usually call him—although his staff and supporters believe it to be a deliberate campaign of personal denigration by his political opponents. But supporters say he was smart enough to lead his party through two election campaigns to ultimate victory despite continuous sniping even from within his own party in which there is a ready-made leadership challenger, the popular Winston Peters.

In a long election campaign, Mr. Bolger made hundreds of speeches and handled scores of radio and television interviews, stumbling badly only once because he was judged to have been too cuttingly quick-witted in putting down a heckler.

He blamed his predecessors, especially former Prime Minister Lange, for souring relations with the United States by "going out of their way to be critical of it." "Mr. Lange talked about hoods going to the White House, clearly angered Washington and his whole demeanour was one of aggression which was not in New Zealand's interests," he said. "From my perspective, we have to avoid locking ourselves into the South Pacific ... we have to be international in outlook. "We therefore need to be on positive terms with all major trading groups and that certainly includes the United States," he said.

"I want to open discussions with Washington at an early date to work through rebuilding relationships which historically have been very warm and friendly and to re-establish mutually acceptable security arrangements. "That is a high foreign policy priority as far as I am concerned." With France, he said, relationships had never been the same as those with the United States.

On top of that, the Rainbow Warrior affair had seriously damaged relationships. "But we should not allow one act that angered New Zealand across the political spectrum to sour our relationships on any permanent basis," he said.

He said the French premier Mr. Rocard was due to visit soon—"and I will be very happy to welcome him to try to work through some outstanding issues and to build a relationship with France that is constructive from both perspectives."

Events in Eastern Europe, Mr. Bolger said, would open new markets with opportunities for New Zealand, but against that there would be increased competition.

Asia, he said, was still the largest and fastest expanding trading market. New Zealand had to improve its marketing ability and become more comfortable with the Asian community, especially Japan. It was unhelpful, he said, for a New Zealand Government to bruise Japanese sensitivities with decisions such as the recent one to ban the sale of a golf course to Japanese interests when the golf course was already under foreign ownership.

Speaks Further on U.S.

BK2910071690 Hong Kong AFP in English 0657 GMT 29 Oct 90

[Text] Wellington, Oct 29 (AFP)—New Zealand will attempt to reach a new security arrangement with the United States, Prime Minister-elect Jim Bolger said here Monday.

On the first working day since Saturday's landslide election victory for his National Party, Mr. Bolger's was speaking after a press report quoted a senior U.S. official as saying Washington wanted a change in New Zealand's anti-nuclear policy.

The outgoing Labour government effectively ended the ANZUS (Australia, New Zealand and United States) military pact by passing laws banning nuclear weapons and nuclear power from New Zealand. American warships could enter New Zealand waters provided they confirmed they had no nuclear weapons aboard, but U.S policy is to neither confirm nor deny this.

Earlier this year while in opposition Mr. Bolger said the National Party had endorsed Labour's position and would keep New Zealand nuclear free. Speaking Monday he said his party's policy was very clear but said "we can work something out (and) if that's interpreted to mean we can reach a position where both countries find it mutually acceptable for security, fine. I've said all along

I want to reach a mutually acceptable security arrangement with the United States."

The Wellington EVENING POST quoted Assistant U.S. Secretary of State for East Asia and Pacific Affairs Richard Solomon as saying Washington welcomed National's victory. "It's very much our hope that New Zealand can return to the ANZUS fold, but it would require a reconsideration on their part that would enable them to understand the importance of (the neither confirm nor deny) policy and their ability to work with their allies," the POST quoted Mr. Solomon saying.

PLO Reacts to Moore's Accusations on Hostages

BK2610122890 Hong Kong AFP in English 1146 GMT 26 Oct 90

[Text] Sydney, Oct 26 (AFP)—The PLO's regional representative hit back Friday after New Zealand Prime Minister Mike Moore accused him of lying about attempts to free New Zealand hostages in the Gulf.

Mr. Moore was reacting to reports in Thursday's AUCKLAND STAR newspaper which quoted the Palestine Liberation Organisation as saying he had rejected an offer to arrange the release of 17 hostages. "This is the first I have heard of it. I can tell you it is just not true. It is a cruel and tragic falsehood," Mr. Moore said.

The PLO's Canberra-based representative to Australia and the Pacific, 'Ali al-Qazaq, insisted he told Mr. Moore last month that Iraq was willing to release the hostages if New Zealand agreed to send a delegation to Baghdad.

Speaking by telephone on Friday, Mr. Qazaq said Mr. Moore had rejected the idea when they met in Wellington. "The main reason he didn't want to send a delegation was he thought that New Zealand would be criticised for breaking Western solidarity," Mr. Qazaq said.

Vanuatu

Government Refuses To Register Iraqi Ships

HK2710091690 Hong Kong AFP in English 0653 GMT 27 Oct 90

[Text] Suva, Oct 27 (AFP)—Vanuatu, one of two Pacific nations which issue flags of convenience, says it will abide by U.N. Security Council resolutions and refuse to register Iraqi ships.

Speaking on the eve of summit talks between U.S. President George Bush and Pacific island leaders, Vanuatu's commissioner of maritime affairs, Richard Carpenter said: "We wouldn't even accept Kuwaiti liners, unless of course, the requests came from its exiled rulers in London."

Mr Bush was expected to ask Pacific island leaders meeting in Hawaii to continue to support economic sanctions imposed on Iraq after that country's August 2 invasion of Kuwait. Prime Minister Walter was attending a conference of Vanuatu's ruling party this weekend and would not attend the summit.

But Mr Carpenter said that Vanuatu would stand firm on sanctions and not accept Iraqi and Kuwaiti ships on its international open ship registry.

Vanuatu and the former U.S. trust territory of the Marshall Islands are the only known operators of open ship registeries in the South Pacific.

Speaking by telephone from Vila, the capital of Vanuatu, Mr Carpenter said there were more than 400 ships on the register which Vanuatu opened in 1981, for a total of two million net tons. Some were from the Middle East, but none from Iraq, he said, "so we don't have an embarrassing situation here."

Vanuatu's international dealings are principally handled by Vanuatu Maritime Services Inc., based in New York. Registry fees bring the government about 1 million dollars a year, he said.

Mr Carpenter said Vanuatu had benefited from troubles in Liberia, which has just gone through a civil war, and Panama, whose ruler, General Manuel Noriega, was captured last year and flown to the United States to stand trial for drug smuggling. "It's a fact that problems experienced in one country make it less attractive. Last year and this year we got a significant number of ships from Panama," Mr Carpenter said.

Meanwhile, Liberia, which has the world's largest offshore registry, has signed a partnership with the Marshall Islands, according to the latest issue of Islands Business. "Owners of ships registered in Liberia are looking for a way to move their interests to a country that has political and economic stability," Howard Zeder, ship commissioner in the Marshalls, told the Suva-based magazine.

Mr Zeder said ships on the Marshalls registry could request protection from the U.S. Navy under the Compact of Free Association, signed when the islands gained independence from the United States. The U.S. Navy is protecting all ships in the Gulf that are flying the Marshall Islands flag, he said.

Mr Zeder is the son of Fred Zeder, a former U.S ambassador to Micronesia and close friend of Mr Bush who was appointed by the President to head the Overseas Private Investment Corporation.

Mr Howard Zeder said he expected some of the 50,000 companies, worth 65 million tons, now registered in Liberia to re-register in the Marshall Islands.